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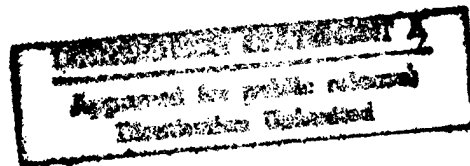
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Near East/North Africa Report

No. 2561



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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DFLP'S HAWATIMAH ON EGYPTIAN-IRAQI COOPERATION, MUBARAK

PM241335 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 18 May 82 p 5

[Interview with Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, in Beirut: "Hawatimah Talks to AL-BA'TH"--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is your opinion of the air bridge established between Mubarak's regime and Saddam's regime for the supply of arms to the latter?

[Answer] It was clear from the very beginning that the aggression launched by the rightist Iraqi regime against the Iranian people's Islamic revolution only serves the imperialist designs in the region, Israel and the reactionaries, regardless of the resounding national slogans raised by the Iraqi regime. As far as the Egyptian regime is concerned, it, as expected, quickly, as early as the first few months of the war, rushed to bless the war and to supply Iraq with ammunition and spare parts. In so doing, the Egyptian regime was expressing its full commitment to Camp David and to the policy aimed at imposing imperialist hegemony on the region and at weakening and dealing blows to the forces of liberation and progress. Furthermore, Husni Mubarak has taken the initiative to organize and further develop his support for the Iraqi regime by dispatching Egyptian officers and troops to fight against the Iranian revolution. A high-ranking Iraqi military delegation has visited Cairo and an air bridge has been established between the two countries. This is no longer a secret. Usamah al-Baz and Abu Ghazalah have announced that Egypt has appealed to the United States to "restore the balance in the Gulf region," in other words support the Iraqi Government and intervene against the Iranian revolution on the basis of the demagogic slogan of "Iraq should be supported because it is an Arab state." Arabism is here being manipulated to suit the wishes of the Mubarak regime and to conceal the Mubarak regime's reactionary line, subservience to U.S. imperialism and alignment with the Baghdad government.

The Egyptian bourgeois rulers know perfectly well that a defeat for the Iraqi rightist regime means a defeat for reaction, including the reactionaries in Egypt. Under misleading calls for "Arab solidarity" the reactionaries have been trying to bring Mubarak's regime back into the Arab fold on the basis of a retreat from the Baghdad summit resolutions instead of a retreat from the Camp David agreements.

The reactionary efforts and attempts to save the Iraqi regime and deal a blow to the Iranian revolution will never succeed. The magic is now turning against the magician, the long night of repression and deception will soon end, and the Iraqi people and army will again take their right place against U.S. imperialism, Zionist expansion and reaction, alongside Syria, the Palestinian revolution, all the steadfast states, and the Arab forces of liberation and progress.

[Question] Do you expect any change in the Mubarak regime's policies?

[Answer] As soon as he assumed power Husni Mubarak reaffirmed his commitment to al-Sadat's policies and pledged to implement the capitulationist agreements concluded with the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialism. He translated these pledges into practical steps such as the joint military exercises in Egypt, the moves against the Libyan Jamahiriyyah, failure to condemn the Israeli repressive measures in the UN Security Council and General Assembly, and the Egyptian attitude toward our people's heroic uprising and the enemy concentrations in Southern Lebanon and on the Syrian borders. This is not strange because Mubarak's Egypt is a natural extension of al-Sadat's Egypt and is a link in the general imperialist strategy in the region. Sinai is an advanced base for NATO and the rapid deployment force. The aim is to contain and put down the national liberation movements and the progressive regimes, not only in the Arab region but throughout the Middle East and Africa.

The right course for Egypt is for all the Egyptian and Arab patriotic and revolutionary forces to be mobilized to bring down the al-Sadat line which, in the absence of al-Sadat, is being pursued by the Egyptian bourgeois class headed by Mubarak. This is the right way to drive the Camp David agreements and the U.S. imperialism out of Egypt.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

SAUDI DAILY INTERVIEWS FATAH OFFICIAL SA'AD SAYIL

GF250640 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 20 May 82 p 27

[Interview granted by Staff Brigadier Sa'ad Sayil, member of Fatah Central Committee and director of Central Operations of the Joint Forces, to AL-MADINAH correspondent Kamal al-Kaylani during a recent visit to Saudi Arabia--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Sa'ad Sayil] In my view, the situation in Southern Lebanon has become connected with the situation inside the occupied territories. The ambitions of the Zionist enemy include both the occupied territories and Southern Lebanon. The main cause of the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon and the continuation of tension there is the Zionist enemy and its attempts to involve itself in the issue. In my view, too, Israel has two objectives. The first one is political and aims at imposing dual agreement on Lebanon, as happened with Egypt, to fragment the Arab rank and create border territories, or a security belt around Israel, which are weak and constitute no threat to Israel. The second objective is strategic. If we historically review the view of the Zionist movement regarding Southern Lebanon and the Zionist attempts since the Sykes Picot agreement, we see that Zionism has been continuously insisting on amending the borders between Palestine and Lebanon in an attempt to acquire more lands in Lebanon because these lands are fertile and contain rich water resources. It is known that it is Israel which delayed the Litani project.

Now Israel's pretext is the presence of the PLO in Lebanon. In my view, Israel's strategic objective is to strike the PLO and its forces in Southern Lebanon. Why? It is natural that there is a link between the PLO and the inhabitants of the occupied territories. It is obvious that the autonomy agreement proposed by the Camp David accords has not found any Palestinian response at all. This is what is worrying Israel and this makes it think that a fatal blow to the PLO would create more favourable circumstances. But even if this happens, the PLO will not be destroyed because it has already exceeded the danger of the so-called fatal blow which the leaders of the Zionist military machinery are threatening. The PLO is no longer an egg that can be broken by hand.

In my view, the new plans which Israel is trying to carry out now would only create more suffering. This suffering will not only be on one side.

It will not be the Palestinians alone who will suffer because we in the Palestinian revolution also have our plans to escalate the military effort inside the occupied territories, and in this way we will also cause suffering for the occupation troops and for the Israeli enemy in general. I am not boasting when I say that. We have forces and capabilities, and the continuous Arab support maintains the strength of our continuity. We appreciate, in particular, the support of our brothers in Saudi Arabia and thank them for their stance and support for the Palestinian revolution. In fact, we are proud of this support.

With regard to Lebanese-Palestinian relations, there is an agreement signed in Cairo to govern these relations. The agreement organizes the Palestinian armed presence in Lebanon in addition to the facilities and other things offered by the PLO to the Lebanese state, such as our commitment to the cease-fire agreement which was signed in 1981, and our obligation to the Arab summit conferences not to carry out any military operations from the Lebanese territories.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

PFLP SPOKESMAN ON PLO DEMANDS, LEBANON

GF211500 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 20 May 82 p 1

[Text] A Palestinian official has emphasized that any plan to resolve the Palestinian issue and establish peace in the Middle East--whatever its source--will be rejected unless it takes the national demands into consideration.

PFLP official spokesman Bassam Abu Sharif added that the PLO adheres to the Palestinians resolutions on the establishment of peace in the region and that the "three Palestinian no's" are the basis of any PLO move toward any plan to resolve the issue.

Abu Sharif, who was speaking at a press conference held at the PLO office in Kuwait yesterday, warned against the grave situation in Southern Lebanon. He said: Israel wants to stir up confusion in the region through its repeated attacks on Lebanese territory. He affirmed that the Palestinian revolution will not give up the gun because it is defending the most sublime cause.

The Palestinian official warned against the serious coming stage in which fierce campaigns against the Arab region will be intensified to carry out U.S. plots to impose economic and political hegemony on the Arab homeland.

Abu Sharif lauded the Syrian-Palestinian agreement, "which has created a new situation to bridge the gaps created by the Cap David parties." He asserted that the Palestinian resistance is currently coordinating military action in terms of commando operations in an unprecedented manner.

He said: During the past 3 months scores of operations have been carried out in the occupied territories. The resistance will escalate its operations in the next stage. This will be "hot" summer for the Zionist enemy.

Abu Sharif said the Palestinian resistance will not interfere in the problems of the Lebanese people. He warned that the next stage in Lebanon will witness some moves by rightist forces to disturb the atmosphere at this important stage.

On Zaire's recent decision to restore diplomatic relations with Israel and to transfer its embassy to occupied Jerusalem, Abu Sharif emphasized that this decision was not incidental but the result of measures the United States had taken and the blackmail which it will use against other African countries.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

KHALID AL-HASAN MONTE CARLO INTERVIEW

JN211916 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1755 GMT 21 May 82

[Radio correspondents' interview with Khalid al-Hasan, head of the Foreign Relations Department at the Palestine National Council--date and place not specified; live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] All people fear the collapse of the cease-fire in southern Lebanon. What is your personal view of the future of the cease-fire in the south?

[Answer] I personally believe that it is very possible to see the collapse of the cease-fire in the south in light of Israeli behavior. The Israelis are trying to find justifications and make up allegations that may help them violate the cease-fire. They also try to take advantage of the border strip so they can avoid confrontation with the UNIFIL contingents. The excuses and allegations are not related to their violation of the cease-fire.

[Question] So. The cease-fire has not been violated until now. Do you think that the Palestinian resistance is actually honoring the cease-fire agreement and not violating it?

[Answer] The resistance is indeed not violating the cease-fire. The resistance has been committed to its 1973 decision of not using southern Lebanon as a base to launch military operations against northern Palestine. In principle, the Palestinian resistance has committed itself to a promise it made to the Lebanese Government in 1971, and recently it committed itself to the cease-fire agreement achieved by the United States and Saudi Arabia. The resistance honors this commitment because it serves its interests and those of Lebanon as well.

[Question] For how long will the cease-fire last? Indefinitely? Particularly if Israel insists on its stance on the Palestinian cause?

[Answer] In light of the situation in southern Lebanon and the present fragmented Arab condition, the supreme interests of the Palestinian struggle demand that we preserve the cease-fire in the south. The problem is not with the Palestinians or the Lebanese, although the Lebanese have the right

to struggle because their land is occupied. The problem is with Israeli behavior, belligerent behavior that reached its peak recently because of continued U.S. support. Hence, we see that the United States moves only at the very last moment because it fears the complications of any Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon.

[Question] We have seen in the past that when Washington dispatches an envoy to any spot in the world, particularly the Middle East, this means that there are impending developments or that there is a situation that must be contained. Morris Draper is in the region now. The question is: Does the Palestinian resistance anticipate a specific operation or an escalation in the situation?

[Answer] The Palestinian resistance has been watching the Israeli concentrations on the Lebanese borders. The resistance has also been listening to sharp threatening statements by military Zionist commanders. It has also followed up the implications of the shelling in Beirut and other positions. Although it is unlikely that the Israeli enemy will translate its threats into actions, we have to realize the fact that the enemy made use of the Polish crisis and annexed the Golan.

We are witnessing a new crisis of increasing interest to the Western world, namely the Falklands crisis. It is most likely that a war may break out in the coming hours between the two belligerents. Naturally, the United States is aware of this. Through our experience with the nature of Israeli thinking in the past 30 or 50 years, we can say that the Zionist enemy may carry out a certain big military operation in southern Lebanon, knowing that the entire world is deeply engaged in British-Argentine war.

[Question] Therefore, Draper is in the region to prevent Israel from carrying out a military operation. Do you believe that his presence is only related to the cease-fire agreement or do you think it has other dimensions?

[Answer] It is unlikely that there are other dimensions at the current phase because, thus far, the sole U.S. policy in the region is to back Israel and give it a free hand, provided this does not cause the situation to erupt in the whole region.

[Question] Prior to Draper's arrival to the region, particularly to Lebanon, it was announced that his primary mission is to entrench the cease-fire agreement in southern Lebanon. It is generally understood that the cease-fire agreement was reached between two sides--Israel and the Palestinian resistance--and that the beefing up of the cease-fire agreement stipulates that the Palestinian and Israeli sides undertook not to violate the cease-fire agreement. It is also generally understood that there are no contacts between the Palestinian resistance and the U.S. side. How then can Morris Draper get Palestinian assurances?

[Answer] Actually, your question is not very accurate because you based it on what is being said about Draper's mission, that he has come to

entrench the cease-fire agreement. Draper, in fact, has not come to do this, but to bring pressure to bear on the Lebanese-Palestinian side not to reply to the Israeli violation of the cease-fire. He is also seeking at the same time to bring pressure to bear on the Israeli Government not to carry out a large-scale aggression with the aim of occupying the south as it has ceaselessly been threatening. The problem in the south lies only in the Israeli side's violation of the cease-fire agreement and acts of aggression. Perhaps you, or rather the world at large, observed that when the enemy launched its first large-scale raids on the south, the Palestinian command exercised self-restraint to demonstrate to the world the nature of the Zionist aggression. Nevertheless, we just cannot keep silent over the recurrence of such aggressions. Therefore, when they carried out their second aggression, our reply was a limited one. The joint Palestinian-Lebanese position in the south is only replying to the Israeli attacks and not carrying out attacks. Given Draper is aware of these facts, he is obliged to bring U.S. pressure to bear on Israel to prevent it from attacking Lebanon so that there will be no need to hold talks with either the Lebanese or Palestinian side.

[Question] At any rate, the reports that preceded Draper's visit confirmed that he is coming to consolidate or entrench stability in the area. However, there is another mission to which Morris Draper has been assigned, namely to unify the interpretation of the cease-fire agreement.

[Answer] Morris Draper is quite wrong if he intends to discuss this topic with the Palestinians and Lebanese in the south, because Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has announced on behalf of the Palestinian resistance that the cease-fire is confined to southern Lebanon. Also, Saudi Crown Prince Fahd and Prince Sa'ud, in their capacity as middlemen between the United States and the resistance, have announced that the cease-fire agreement is only confined to southern Lebanon. Consequently, there is only one interpretation for this. However, the other side, the Zionist enemy, is making interpretations which go so far as to say that the assassination of the Israeli press attache in Paris is considered a violation of the cease-fire agreement. These justifications are for carrying out attacks and not for bringing about a cease-fire. The UN reports do support the Palestinian-Lebanese position in the south. Therefore, if Draper intends to discuss this, he should discuss it with the Israeli enemy and not with Lebanon or the Palestinian resistance.

[Question] Do you imagine--and this is being talked about in any case--that there is a new formula which the Americans are seeking to present, through the south Lebanese situation, as an alternative to Camp David? What are the Americans telling you indirectly?

[Answer] Up to now the Americans have not told us anything directly or indirectly except perhaps some of what famous British journalists write, citing U.S. officials, that the White House and the U.S. State Department intend to reconsider the situation after the Zionist withdrawal from Sinai and to present a stand which might contain something new. The United States is facing an impasse with regard to Camp David; Begin's interpretation

of the Camp David agreements has been rejected even by Egypt. The Palestinians reject the Camp David agreements in principle and also reject their provisions. Hence, from the practical point of view, the U.S. position has reached a blind alley which will not allow the continuation of the Camp David process that they had expected.

At the same time, the United States does not want anyone else to deal with this issue, particularly Europe. Therefore, it is trying to come out with something new in order to show that the peace process it started will continue in a new form. They say that this new form will appear after the congressional elections in November. Here again we return to the elections story because in November 1983 the presidential elections will start. Thus, we will always be in this vicious circle. Therefore, on this issue, the U.S. attitude cannot take a practical line unless there is a clear, unified and effective Arab stand to change it. Otherwise we will remain in this vicious circle.

[Question] How can this Arab stand be clarified? A few moments ago you mentioned Egypt. Do you foresee a rapprochement between Egypt and the Arabs in the near future?

[Answer] I cannot foresee a rapprochement in the near future at all because this rapprochement necessitates a change in the policy which led to the estrangement. This means that Egypt should again talk in Arabic with regard to Arab policy. Undoubtedly, we must say that since his coming to power, Husni Mubarak has been adhering to the issue of Palestinian self-determination and to the impermissibility of letting anyone else talk or negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians. This is all good but is not enough to change the picture of Arab-Egyptian relations. This change needs more time and further transformations.

[Question] Don't you think that an Egyptian step here and an Arab step there would eventually bring the two sides closer together?

[Answer] In fact what brings the two sides together is the Egyptian steps, not the Arab steps, because there is no Arab step and there is no Arab aversion to Egypt's coming back to the Arab fold. All the Arabs welcome Egypt's return, not only to the Arab ranks, but also to its leading position in these ranks. However, in order to return to this position, Egypt must speak in the same language.

[Question] On the margin of Draper's visit to Lebanon and the region to affirm the cease-fire in South Lebanon, other events took place there, particularly in Sidon. Don't you fear that these events will have a bearing on Palestinian-Lebanese relations and hence, don't you think that this will affect the power and force of the resistance in the south?

[Answer] In fact, if what has been taking place in Lebanon had been between the Palestinians and some other people, the relations between the two would have deteriorated long ago. There has been agreement and understanding between the south Lebanese people and the Palestinians in facing

their common enemy. The recent events which separated them were not planned, organized or responsible. Both sides rushed to end them and to wipe out their effects. These regrettable events should not have happened. The Lebanese and Palestinians have met their responsibilities as brothers who can solve their problems. Naturally such events should not continue to happen. I believe that Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is devoting great attention to this issue and is dealing with it firmly because the supreme interest demands this.

[Question] In my last question, I would like to return to the Draper mission, which has been discussed at length. It has been said that this mission has something to do with Lebanese politics and the Lebanese presidential elections. As a Palestinian resistance member, how do you define your stand on the Lebanese presidential elections, if you have a definite stand at all, and from what angle?

[Answer] In fact, the presidential elections in any state indicate legitimacy and sovereignty. Therefore, we have always believed in Lebanon's sovereignty; we have no right to interfere in the internal affairs of any Arab state, particularly Lebanon. Naturally, we consider the presidential elections to be a Lebanese issue. We wish that all the Lebanese could exercise their rights and not allow anybody to interfere in their presidential elections. However, and regrettably, the facts are different. There are indications and also information that Draper will discuss with the Lebanese leaders the issue of their presidential elections. This has been clear from the groups with which he met. All I can hope for is that the Lebanese will not fall in the trap of heeding outside opinions on who will be the Lebanese president.

It is time that the interests of Lebanon, the whole of Lebanon, be put above all other considerations.

[Question] Might we say that the resistance will follow a process of restraint and noninterference so that the Lebanese elections are conducted in a suitable atmosphere?

[Answer] Naturally.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

PLO OFFICIAL DISCUSSES DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS

NC231352 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 May 82

["The Open Platform" program: Interview with 'Abd al-Latif Abu Hijlah, identified by His Name de Guerre Abu Ja'far, the director of the PLO Political Department; date and place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Brother Abu Ja'far, let us start with Europe. What is the nature of Palestinian diplomatic activity in Europe? What is the extent of the success and failure in our activity in the European arena?

[Answer] The truth is that the talk about Europe--and I mean Western Europe--is not detached from the talks about the overall PLO political and diplomatic effort in all the continents of the world. The successes we have achieved in the West European arena are also not detached from the overall political and diplomatic successes which the PLO has achieved all over the world, despite the distinguished and special importance which Western Europe has.

In the 30 years prior to the contemporary Palestinian revolution, the Arab nation, represented by its states, was extremely far from influencing the European arena and from any political activity that could counter the world Zionist movement. The Palestinian revolution had the honor of being the vanguard in storming this arena. Within a few years the effect of this assault--if we can call it that--appeared in the form of achievements which, with all humility, I can say they were not bad. For your information, the PLO currently maintains relations with nearly all European states. It is true that these relations are of varying degrees. Some of these are very close and have assumed a high-level diplomatic form, like our relations with Greece, Austria and Spain and also recently our relations with Italy progressed a little, as well as with Belgium and France.

With the start of the revolution, the PLO actually began relations with the influential political forces in the European arena. We established very strong relations with the prominent political parties, such as the communist and socialist parties. These relations are still strong. They developed through the years of struggle waged by the Palestinian people until they reached the official level.

I think you know, and many people know, that the Zionist movement and the state of Israel are extremely irritated with this Palestinian activity and the progress being made by the PLO. I do not at all claim that the political and diplomatic work in Western Europe is easy or that the desired results were achieved easily. No, it is a hard and difficult work that requires patience, political awareness and knowledge of the European arena. It also requires courage.

[Question] Brother Abu Ja'far, regarding Brother Abu Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] visit to India, a founding member of the Nonaligned Movement. He may also pay a visit to Pakistan. In what framework is Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit taking place?

[Answer] Actually, Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to India is not the first. It is taking place within the framework of the intensive political activity which Brother ABU 'Ammar is leading in many countries. India, as you said, is considered one of the big states and a state which had the honor of founding the Nonaligned Movement. It is extremely influential in international political affairs. India is a friendly country. Perhaps you know that our diplomatic relations with India are at the highest level. Our office there is at the embassy level. Brother Abu 'Ammar, not only in this visit but also in his previous one, was received as a head of state with all the necessary protocol. What is more important than this are the political relations that exist between us and India. These political relations are based on India's recognition of the full historic rights of the Palestinian people--the right of return, the right of self-determination and the right of establishing an independent Palestinian state. These relations are also based on hostility to imperialism, support of the liberation movements of the world, of a just peace throughout the world and of the progress and liberation of all peoples.

These are the bases on which the relations between India and the PLO are founded. Brother Abu 'Ammar and Mrs Indira Gandhi have personally had a great impact on strengthening these relations. Brother Abu 'Ammar is now visiting India because he felt it was necessary to meet with Mrs Gandhi to discuss the latest developments in our area in the face of the imperialist onslaught and the repeated Zionist aggressions against the Palestinian revolution and the intransigence of the fascist ruling clique in Israel, as well as the worldwide imperialist activity, particularly in the Indian Ocean where the U.S. fleet is present. It is no secret to you that there are issues that affect both India and us, like the Iraq-Iran war. India is a member of the Nonaligned Mediation Committee. It seems that Brother Abu 'Ammar felt that the time had come for this committee to become more active to end this war, which is destructive to both sides and which threatens to spread to other areas.

[Question] Brother Abu Ja'far, director of the PLO Political Department. I hope that you will not regard my next question as an anticipation of events: Will India make a move in the interest of the Palestinian cause?

[Answer] India has made a move in the interest of the Palestinian cause.

[Question] In the future?

[Answer] India will definitely make a move in the future. In its being an effective nonaligned state in East Asia and in the world, India has relations, though in various degrees, yet considerable relations with the major powers in the world.

[Question] Especially since Indira Gandhi is going to visit the United States?

[Answer] Perhaps Indira Gandhi will visit the United States, but she will not be doing so for our sake alone. However, when Indira Gandhi visits the United States and holds talks with U.S. officials, she will definitely discuss the Middle East. We are confident that Indira Gandhi will be on our side in these talks.

[Question] Now that we have mentioned the United States, naturally, you are aware and the brother listeners are aware of established U.S. policies concerning our issue: Nonrecognition of the PLO and of the rights of the Palestinian people. These established policies are also developing--that is to say, Draper, who has come to the area, has adopted the Israeli concept of the cease-fire--a concept which says that the cease-fire must be total and prevalent on all Arab lines and fronts. We have heard that Brother Abu al-Lutf, head of the political department, wants to visit the United States. I do not know, but is this report true or not?

[Answer] The fact is: With regard to the U.S. stand toward our issue and our people, as you have said, there are established policies. The United States is the most intransigent state in the world in standing against our people. I do not wish to open the dossier of the relations with the United States because it is clear and obvious. It suffices for one to view the U.S. stands at the Security Council where, on many occasions, all the states of the world agree on a certain stand or resolution, yet the world is surprised by a U.S. veto--always against our people's issues and their cause. The U.S. stand is clear and, under the new U.S. administration, this stand stems from the basis of mobilizing all the capabilities and states in this area to stand against the Soviet Union, but never for solving the Middle East problem.

But does this necessitate that we remain silent? Certainly not. Among the lines on which we should move with regard to the United States is that we must maintain contact with the U.S. public opinion and exert pressure and alter the facts which U.S. imperialism and the world Zionist movement have been able to inculcate in the minds of the Americans. Furthermore, the Americans must feel that by their stand against the ambitions and rights of the Palestinian people and the ambitions and rights of the Arab people they will incur a great loss. Therefore, we must say at this juncture that the other Arab states have an important role to play in this regard.

With regard to Brother Abu al-Lutf's visit, some papers and news agencies have reported it. I can say that not everything that has been published

about this visit, whether confirming it--which is not true--or denying it--which is not accurate; the fact is that an invitation has been extended to Brother Abu al-Lutf and a Palestinian delegation to hold talks or debates with some members of the U.S. Congress.

The invitation, as I have said, did not acquire an official form in the recognized sense. It came from U.S. Senator Findley. Findley's relationship with us is not new since he has visited Beirut several times and has met with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. As I have said, his relationship with us is not new. Findley has arranged for such a meeting which will take place in one of the U.S. Senate rooms.

To say that this visit has a full official character is not true. A lot of noise has been raised about this visit when Percy and Hamilton denied to AFP that they have extended an invitation to Brother Abu al-Lutf. This denial was exaggerated because Percy and Hamilton have not addressed an invitation, basically. Nobody has claimed that Percy and Hamilton have addressed an invitation to Brother Abu al-Lutf or any other Palestinian (?leader). The person who has addressed the invitation is Findley. Percy or Hamilton might attend [the meeting] or they might not. Let us wait until the meeting is held. In my estimation, this subject has been discussed during the PLO executive meeting and in the circles of the Palestinian revolution and has been approved in principle--that is to say, there is no objection.

Why should we not also break into the American arena and meet with the Americans directly? We have confidence in ourselves and in the justness of our cause and we have confidence in our revolution. We will say in Washington what we are saying in Beirut. So, why should we not address the American people in the language they understand about our people's historical rights, and directly, should such an opportunity avail itself.

This does not at all mean that Brother Abu al-Lutf or any other Palestinian leader will, God forbid, change the stand of the Palestinian revolution. On the contrary, he will address the American people and the American Senate and whoever attends the meeting with the same language it is using in Beirut.

[Question] Certainly, we must not expect a swift change in the U.S. stand?

[Answer] Certainly. This is only one of very many steps.

CSO: 4400/281

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

INTERVIEW WITH PLO'S KHALID AL-FAHUM

LD231400 Kuwait KUNA in English 1206 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 23 May (KUNA)--Speaker of the Palestinian National Council-Parliament [NPC] in exile--Khalid al-Fahum Sunday called on the United States to recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and to recognize that people's right to repatriation and creation of an independent state.

Al-Fahum, however, predicted that such a step will not be adopted in the near future on account of the American administration's insistence on ignoring the Palestine people and the PLO and added that the U.S. is exploiting the current Arab disarray to extend more assistance to the Zionist enemy and to follow-up the Camp David policy which aims at imposing hegemony over the Arab nation.

In an interview with KUNA, al-Fahum said that mustering Arab efforts to pressure the U.S. would bring about a change in the American stance.

Despite recurrent American hostile stands against our cause and the Arab nation we bear no grudge against the American people, the Palestinian speaker said and called on the U.S. officials to ponder on their country's strategic interests.

Al-Fahum stated that an Arab parliamentary delegation will tour eight Latin American countries in early June to establish a dialogue with their respective parliaments.

He described the dialogue as of great significance "since most Latin American parliamentarians are pro-Israeli as a result of their ignorance of the facts of the Palestinian question and the Palestinian struggle."

"They are beguiled by the Zionist propaganda and the Jewish community on one hand and the absence of an Arab-Latin American dialogue on the other," he added.

Expressing hope that representatives of most Arab parliaments will join the delegation, al-Fahum said that those who attended previous dialogues with European parliaments have spoken in a unified tone and bypassed all Arab differences. He added that the forthcoming talks in South America

and Africa which will take place next October or November will employ the same method.

The Palestinian official highlighted in this respect the importance of Afro-Arab parliamentary talks to explain the dangerous dimensions of the Zairean step in resuming diplomatic ties with the Jewish state.

On the Palestinian council's move to confront the Zairean unilateral procedure, al-Fahum said that the council has held contacts with other Arab parliaments to stress the seriousness of the Zairean initiative.

He noted however that the Arab officials have also hurried into adopting retaliatory diplomatic and economic measures against that African state. He cited the Saudi, Qatari and Libyan decisions to sever relations with Zaire and the Kuwaiti National Assembly statement which called on all Arab countries to break their ties with the same country. Furthermore, the Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi has made several statements to expose the repercussions of such a trend.

The speaker expressed hope that the Arab development funds would act in light of the Zairean violation of the spirit of Afro-Arab cooperation and friendship.

Concerning the council's position towards the establishment of a Palestinian state, al-Fahum said the NCO's main target is to establish a Palestinian independent state on any liberated soil in Palestine which is also the aspiration of all Palestinians.

He elaborated saying that their goal affirms the Palestinian people's downright rejection of an alternative homeland or resettlement and it further ascertains the Palestinians identity and their right to self-determination similar to any people in the world.

"We are convinced that our people's struggle will continue in an outside occupied Palestine," al-Fahum said, adding "they are ready to sacrifice for that cause."

The form and policy of that state will be determined by the Palestinian people and no other body.

Answering a question on the council's participation in an Arab parliamentary emergency session to discuss the Syrian-Iraqi border dispute and the consequent obstruction of the flow of Iraqi crude across Syrian territory to Mediterranean terminals, he replied that we attend all Arab parliamentary meetings. Palestine was among the founders of the Arab Parliamentary Union, he said, but noted that "until now no Arab country has agreed to host the proposed conference."

Referring to the situation in South Lebanon, al-Fahum said that Israeli ambitions in that region are well known and their threats have not ceased, yet he asserted that the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese people will resist with all available weapons "and our Arab nation will not stand idle."

Al-Fahum is scheduled to leave Kuwait this afternoon for Tokyo on an official visit during which he will hold talks with his Japanese counterpart on Arab-Japanese relations in general and that Asian country's stand toward the Palestinian cause in particular.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

JORDAN'S PRO-EGYPT LINE CONDEMNED--The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has condemned the serious conspiratorial role played by King Husayn, through coordination with the reactionaries, to deviate from the Baghdad summit resolutions. The front issued a statement in Beirut saying that King Husayn aims to pave the way for breaking the siege of Husni Mubarak's regime, which is chained by the Camp David accords. The statement described Qabus' talks in Jordan, after his visit to Cairo and Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran's visit to Baghdad, as a confirmation of the serious line taken by the Jordanian regime which allows for more Zionist belligerency and aggression, especially against Lebanon. [Text]
[JN132152 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 13 May 82]

CSO: 4400/281

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE APPEAL NOTED

PM211055 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 9 May 82 p 5

[Apparent text of "Appeal to the Mediterranean Peoples" issued at end of fourth conference of Mediterranean progressive forces in Algiers on 7 May: "Effecting a Rapprochement Between the Northern and Southern Shores"]

[Text] In the appeal adopted unanimously yesterday the peoples of the Mediterranean region are called upon:

"To step up the struggle against the danger posed by the persistence of conflicts, the arms race and imperialism's strategic redeployment in our region, particularly in the Middle East and the Maghreb.

"To mobilize further with a view to creating the right conditions for dismantling bases, withdrawing foreign intervention forces and fleets, banning the storage and transit of nuclear weapons in order to remove the dangers of confrontation between the great powers, to move toward the surpassing and dissolution of blocs with a view to turning our region into a denuclearized zone of peace.

"To reaffirm and shoulder their effective and practical solidarity with peoples struggling for freedom and their rights to self-determination and national independence.

"To take action aimed at settling the region's own conflict, which constitute a serious threat to peace, especially the conflicts for which the Middle East and West Sahara are the theaters.

"To support the Palestinian people's right in the conviction that any just and lasting peace in the Middle East implies Israel's total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and respect for the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination and to establish an independent state on their national territory under the leadership of the PLO--their sole legitimate representative.

"To condemn the policy of annexation and expansion pursued by Israel in Jerusalem, the Golan Heights and the occupied regions.

"To express their solidarity with the Palestinian patriots on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip and with the Syrian citizens of the Golan Heights against the repressive measures and actions taken against them by the Israeli authorities which are pursuing their aggressions against Lebanon, in violation of its sovereignty and independence, and are continuing to threaten and provoke the Syrian Arab Republic.

"To support the West Saharan people--notably after the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic's admission to the OAU--in their just fight for freedom to exercise their right to self-determination and independence, and efforts aimed at opening direct negotiations between the POLISARIO and Morocco in keeping with the decisions of the international bodies.

"To support the Cypriot people in their struggle for a just solution based on the UN resolutions advocating the withdrawal of the foreign occupation forces and the sovereignty, independence, unity and integrity and nonaligned nature of the Republic of Cyprus.

"To condemn the U.S. aggression against the Gulf of Sidra on 19 August 1981 and the provocations and economic and technological blockade against Libya.

"To express their solidarity with Turkey's democratic forces which are struggling against oppression and for democracy and social progress.

"To take control of and extend the prospects opened up by the convergence between the national liberation movement on the southern shore of the Mediterranean and the fight waged by the democratic and progressive forces on the northern shore which are struggling together with all kinds of domination, exploitation and hegemony and for the assertion of freedom, the consolidation of national independence and cooperation on an equal footing.

"To value the importance of the role of the nonalignment policy which, as an autonomous factor independent of the blocs, is becoming an essential element in international life.

"To reject the imperatives of a new international division of labor which is aimed at making the workers on both sides of the Mediterranean bear the burden of the structural crisis in the present world economic system.

"To campaign for the restructuring and democratization of international economic relations and institutions, particularly by the implementation of global negotiations in the UN framework with a view to establishing a new international economic order based on relationships of justice and fairness.

"To support the promotion of a Mediterranean entity based on complementarity and the joint utilization of the region's rich potential in the framework of fruitful and egalitarian regional cooperation and thus to participate in the search for its autonomy as the prelude to a harmonious and balanced development benefitting all.

"To take action against the monopoly exercised by multinational firms over the international communications and information system which is part of the imperialist enterprise of dominating and exploiting peoples, notably in the form of cultural aggression.

"To work for the advent of a new international communications and information order which preserves the specific nature and identity of each of our peoples and respects the right to the development of national cultures, thus helping to create, especially in the Mediterranean basin, a sphere of enriching and balanced cultural exchanges and taking up the developing countries' needs in that sphere.

"To organize their rapprochement and express their attachment to Mediterranean cooperation through exchanges, meetings and joint action with a view to continuing an extended and increased consultation among the region's progressive forces."

CSO: 4500/182

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ARAB FUND-PDRY AGREEMENT--An agreement was signed today in Kuwait between the Arab Fund for Socioeconomic Development and the PDRY. The PDRY will receive a loan of 3 million Kuwaiti dinars to finance a fishing harbor. Gross expenses for this project are estimated at 13.1 million Kuwaiti dinars. The loan will be granted at an interest rate of 4 percent and has to be repaid over 18 years with a grace period of 3 1/2 years. [GF011700 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1345 GMT 1 Jun 82 GF]

CSO: 4400/295

GCC'S AL-SUBHI ON IRAQ-IRAN WAR, OTHER TOPICS

GF231835 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 23 May (WAKH)--Ibrahim al-Subhi, GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs, has stressed that the GCC has succeeded in preventing the expansion of the Iraqi-Iranian war to other sensitive regions of the Arab Gulf. In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-SIYASAH published today, al-Subhi said: "The leaders of the GCC countries have made great efforts to contain the 20-month-old war. This is in itself a victory because the war did not spread to other fronts or involve other countries."

He said: The GCC countries have shown the world that they are able to protect the region's security and stability. Despite its fierceness, this war did not threaten the region's security and stability. The oil pipelines are still flowing and no changes have affected them.

Asked about the Gulf countries' stand on the recent military escalation between Baghdad and Tehran, al-Subhi said: "We are now using political means and have not moved to military means. We hope we will contain and put an end to this war through peaceful means with the help of the countries concerned."

Ibrahim al-Subhi said: "Intensive Arab contacts are underway to hold an Arab meeting on either the summit or the foreign ministers level to discuss several Arab issues, the foremost of which is the Iraqi-Iranian war."

He said: The main purpose of the contacts being made by the GCC foreign ministers in implementation of the decision made during their extraordinary session in Kuwait last week is to prevent the expansion of the war and prevent any international intervention that would threaten the region's security and stability.

Al-Subhi stressed the GCC countries support for any country threatened by Iran or any other party. He indicated that this does not mean that the GCC constitutes a bloc or a threat to anyone but a strength for the region's peace stability and security.

The GCC official said the Gulf countries will hold a meeting in Bahrain on 8 June to discuss the joint security agreement project.

On Egypt's return, he said: "The Arabs must decide on Egypt's return because the decision to boycott it was made at an Arab summit following its peace agreement with Israel. Egypt's return to the Arabs has been agreed and there is no doubt about it. Contacts are underway between Egypt and some countries and we hope Arab unity will be restored."

CSO: 4400/281

SAUDI INFORMATION MINISTER DISCUSSES GULF INFORMATION MEDIA

GF020605 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 31 May 82 p 6

[Dispatch by Sulayman Aba Husayn from Riyadh]

[Text] Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani announced that the Gulf information media has succeeded in explaining clearly the real goals behind establishing the GCC. He added that the information media has contributed greatly in this field, besides showing its capability to shoulder responsibility and to react to this event.

In an exclusive statement to AL-YAWM, and answering a question on the practices of the Western information media in distorting the image of the Arabs in the Gulf in particular, he added that it is our responsibility--in the first place--to give a clear picture about what takes place in our country and about our behavior and practices in this homeland so as to sincerely reflect the values that govern the region's conduct. Besides, it is our responsibility to confront all these tendentious campaigns, to try to feed the Western world with information and use the language it understands so that we can be continuously in touch. He added that objectivity and scientific approach are regarded as two important factors in this issue.

On the implementation of the Gulf resolutions and the strong motives they give to crystallize the GCC goals, he said: If we consider the concept behind the establishment of the GCC, we will undoubtedly discover that this idea originally stemmed from the will of the citizens before it became the will of the governments or the governmental institutions. Any resolution must always stem from sincere desire and the motives which urge implementation. I believe that the motives and will behind this Gulf decision are adequate to put it into effect. We recently witnessed clearly how the Gulf resolutions came into effect and how these resolutions became effective, practical and realistic. In general, we can say that cooperation among the Gulf countries is a unique experience that gives the Arab and Islamic world an idea and image of how cooperation among brothers should be when intentions are sincere.

CSO: 4400/295

PERSIAN GULF AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

CREATION OF NEW INVESTMENT BANK--A new investment bank, to be called the Arabian Investment Banking Corporation (Investcorp), is being launched by businessmen from six Gulf states, according to a recent report from Bahrain. Investcorp will aim to channel Arab petrodollars into foreign investments and will also provide local firms with financial advice, help them with mergers, acquisitions and corporate finance in addition to assisting foreign companies operating in the area. Investcorp will have an authorised capital of up to \$500 million, including \$200 million to be subscribed by shareholders. The bank's headquarters will be in Bahrain and it will open an office in London when operations start next year, a bank spokesman was quoted as saying. Investcorp would have as much capital as the top 10 investment banks in the US, according to bank officials. It is now making \$26 million of its shares available to Gulf nationals. The remaining shares will be held by founding shareholders, who include leading ruling and commercial families in the Gulf. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 18, 3 May 82 p 11]

UNIFIED PRICES FOR OIL PRODUCTS--Oil ministers of the six nations belonging to the Gulf Cooperation Council have recommended a unified pricing system for refined oil products and studies to establish a single pricing system are to be undertaken by the managers of the national oil companies of the member states, Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani announced last week. He was speaking after a meeting of GCC oil ministers in Riyadh and he said the ministers had adopted a certain number of unspecified recommendations concerning petroleum products and their production and consumption in GCC states. "The meeting, among other things, discussed coordination and cooperation among GCC member states in the local marketing and refining industries," Sheikh Yamani declared. He did not give details. The Gulf Cooperation Council brings together Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 18, 3 May 82 p 10]

CSO: 4400/283

BRIEFS

AMBUSH OF SOVIET CONVOY--London, 14 May (AAP)--The Afghan Mujahidin, during an ambush of a Soviet convoy, destroyed three Soviet tanks and killed some two dozen Soviet soldiers. Delayed news arriving at Peshawar said that a Soviet military convoy was passing through Balkh on the morning of 23 April when the Mujahidin attacked it near the Koshk fort. During the battle which lasted several hours, the Mujahidin captured rocket launchers, and destroyed three Soviet tanks and three military vehicles. After the successful ambush the Mujahidin withdrew to their safe positions. What was left of the Soviet convoy later moved toward Kabul. The Mujahidin, on this occasion, also captured one Soviet machinegun, seven Kalashnikov rifles, and a large quantity of ammunition. The Mujahidin also attacked another Soviet military convoy some 8 kilometers north of Mazar-e Sharif airfield and captured one military pickup and one Soviet truck loaded with provisions. During this ambush, which took place on 24 April, four Karmal troops were reported killed. [Text] [GF191824 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 15 May 82 p 10]

BABRAK KARMAL REPLACED--Peshawar, 19 May--According to reports, rumor is rife in Kabul these days that the Soviets will soon replace Babrak Karmal with Mohammad Khan Jalalar as the top man in Afghanistan. According to some informed circles, if Jalalar is not made the top man, the next man in line is Asadollah Sarwari. The reports show with certainty that the Soviets no more consider Babrak Karmal as a man useful to them because, under him, the differences between the Khalq and Parcham factions have become wider rather than narrower. It is also known that the Soviets do not consider Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand to be very useful. As Babrak Karmal and Keshtmand both belong to the Parcham faction, then Keshtmand is also responsible for the fact that party differences have not been narrowed down. [Text] [GF241713 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 20 May 82 p 1]

CSO: 4656/7

ALGERIA

ALGERIA-TANZANIA COOPERATION NOTED

PM241319 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 13 May 82 p 12

[APS report: "Algeria-Tanzania, End of Joint Committee Meeting"]

[Text] Algiers--The first session of the Algerian-Tanzanian Joint Committee ended yesterday afternoon with the signing of a report by vocational training minister Mohamed Nabi and Tanzanian trade minister Ali Mchumo.

The session, which began last Monday, led to a strengthening of cooperation in the economic, technical and cultural spheres. The two countries' experts noted some imbalance in their trade.

In this connection the two delegations agreed to increase and extend the range of products to be imported and exported by the two countries. Two lists were drawn up for this purpose, comprising products of interest to the two countries.

The document initialed by the Algerian and Tanzanian ministers stresses the need to strengthen cooperation in the energy and petrochemical industries sphere. It has been learned that this issue is to be the subject of a more detailed study by the ministries concerned. In this connection the two delegations noted with satisfaction the excellent relations which exist in this sphere.

In addition the two delegations pledged to develop relations in the agriculture sphere, as regards production especially processing and marketing. Similarly it was decided to increase cooperation in the sphere of training, technical assistance, information and culture.

In this framework Algiers expressed its readiness to provide technical assistance in training young Tanzanians.

In a short speech Mr Mohamed Nabi expressed satisfaction with the work carried out by the experts in the two delegations. The minister also said that Algeria is prepared to consolidate the existing cooperation between the two countries, which is part of south-south cooperation.

For his part the Tanzanian trade minister said that the results of this first session exceeded expectations.

Analyzing the work of this session Mr Mchumo said he is convinced that the results achieved herald more good results in other sectors, forming an authentic implementation of south-south cooperation.

It should be recalled that the Tanzanian delegation has been staying in Algeria since last Sunday and is due to return to its country today.

CSO: 4500/182

PASSPORT ABUSE IN BANK SHARE MARKET

Manama GULF MIRROR in English 24 Apr 82 p 1

[Article by Catherine Wallis]

[Text] **AT LEAST 20 people have been caught in a Bahrain police crackdown on the abuse of passports in the recent craze for public shares.**

Hundreds of passports have been registered several times for the same issue, and the receipts sold to individuals who are unaware they are worthless.

Any Bahrain or Gulf passport can be used — once only — to register for the purchase of shares. The receipt, if it is found to be valid when fed into a computer, gives the holder the right to subscribe for shares at the bank. The more receipts he has, the more shares he can buy.

Over the last few public issues, however a thriving fringe market in passports and receipts has sprouted. Passports are now "quoted" on the informal exchange — the Bank of Bahrain and the Middle East issue was fetching \$80 a passport in its second week while Bahrain International Bank's issue commanded prices of \$675 a passport due to popular demand.

Private

"A man I know paid \$65

for a passport in Bahrain, and a week later sold the receipt for \$285 in Kuwait," one market source said.

There is nothing illegal about "renting" one's passport for share issues, authorities say. "That is purely a private transaction between two people", a Ministry of Commerce official said.

It is, however illegal to rent passports out for the same issue more than once.

"Many of the culprits are old ladies who don't know what they are doing," a police spokesman said. "I asked one woman: 'Why did you sell your passport twice?' She said: 'I didn't sell it twice, I sold it once in Rifa'a and once in Manama.'"

Most of the cases are being settled out of court. But some are cases of blatant dishonesty, where individuals have collected passports together and deliberately double-registered them. Some of the accused are from Gulf states outside Bahrain.

The practice of renting passports has been common in Kuwait for a long time, but it is relatively new to Bahrain.

"I remember a time," one investor reminisced fondly, "when you could just borrow them from your family and friends. I once collected 2,000 passports in a week just by asking my family, my family's friends and friends of friends."

Touts

Recently, however, Bahrainis have begun to lose their sense of generosity in the affair. A token \$5 or \$8 was charged at first, but it was not long before prices began to inflate.

Now, touts scour towns and villages all over the island looking for fresh fodder.

A passport purchased at the beginning of an issue serves as an indicator of an issue's popularity. The more popular a company is, the faster the price of a passport will rise, and the less it resembles what it really is — a document of travel.

CSO: 4400/280

SEAFRONT CIVIC CENTER PLANNED

Manama GULF MIRROR in English 1 May 82 p 1

[Article by Elizabeth Kirkwood]

[Text] BAHRAIN is to build a multi-million dollar civic centre which will rise from the sea in the area between the marina and the Muharraq causeway. It will combine the best of modern architecture with a facade of Islamic designs and engravings in keeping with local traditions.

The centre, to be built in two phases, consists of a museum complex and art galleries, an exhibition and conference centre, a theatre, a central library, a 200-seat cafeteria and new headquarters for the Directorate of Antiquity.

"The site we have chosen has great aesthetic advantages. With the views of the seafont and Muharraq, it will be an attraction in its own right," said Bahrain's Minister of Information Mr Tariq Almoayyed who is co-ordinating the project.

Exhibition

Danish architects Krohn and Hartvig Rasmussen International were appointed six months ago to prepare the master plan and they are now finalising details with the relevant Bahraini ministries. Five Unesco museum experts from Mexico, Canada, Jordan, Britain and France were invited by the government to assist in the project to make the best possible use of the facilities.

"All documents are to be drawn up by the end of the year for tender and construction of phase one is due to begin in early 1983," the Minister said.

The first phase, costing BD 7 million, is for the museum and art galleries. There will be four separate buildings for museums of

archaeology, natural sciences, ethnology and old documents, linked by a ground floor area the art galleries, an auditorium a hall of graves and a cafeteria with sea-views. There will also be an outside exhibition area.

The possibility of including botanical gardens, an aquarium, a planetarium and a mosque is also being discussed.

The construction of phase two will not begin until after 1985 as provisions for this do not fall in the present four-year plan. "The eventual existence of conference halls and an exhibition centre will mean that the facilities will be self-supporting," the Minister explained. "We will be able to run conferences and exhibitions along the same theme."

CSO: 4400/280

BRIEFS

TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS--Manama, 21 May (WAKH)--Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, received in Manama this morning Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim, who is currently visiting Bahrain in the course of his tour of a number of countries in the region. The audience was attended by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah. [Text] [GF210653 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0637 GMT 21 May 82] Tanzanian Foreign Minister Salim Ahmad Salim and the delegation accompanying him left the country for Muscat at 1215 today after a 3-day official visit to Bahrain within his tour of a number of states in the region. During his visit, he held talks with Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah on bilateral relations and means of bolstering them, Arab-African cooperation and current Arab and international issues. He was seen off at the airport by the foreign minister and senior officials at the Foreign Affairs Ministry. [Text] [GF221214 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 May 82]

SAUDI INDUSTRY MINISTER ENDS VISIT--Saudi Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi left the country this morning after a visit to Bahrain during which he attended meetings of the boards of directors of the Gulf Company for petrochemical industries and the Bahrain Aluminium Company. He was seen off at the airport by Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, minister of development and industry and acting minister of state for cabinet affairs; Shaykh 'Isa ibn 'Abdallah al Khalifah, under secretary of the Ministry of Development and Industry; Saudi Ambassador to Bahrain 'Abd al-Rahman al-Qadi; and a number of officials. [Text] [GF231430 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 23 May 82]

AMIR RECEIVES ANDREOTTI, DELEGATION--The amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah, today received Giulio Andreotti, former Italian prime minister and chairman of the Interparliamentary Political Commission, and the accompanying delegation who came to greet his highness on the occasion of their visit to Bahrain. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman al Khalifah, Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah and Italian Ambassador Paolo Tarony. Mr Andreotti arrived in Bahrain last night on a 1-day visit within a tour of a number of countries of the region. [Text] [GF221636 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 May 82]

BAPCO EXPENDITURE REDUCTION--Spending by the Bahrain Petroleum Company, (Bapco), should be cut to a level only sufficient to enable the company to carry out its refining operations according to the island's Minister of Development and Industry. Mr Yousef Shirawi, who is also Chairman of Bapco, said the expenditure cuts were necessary to ensure that Bapco remains competitive in the world oil industry. Speaking to a gathering Bapco's managers, Mr Shirawi said the Bahrain government was worried about possible losses of revenue unless Bapco reduced its costs. And, although the company had a good year in 1981, the time had come for tight controls on spending. "Everything is going against last year's situation," Mr Shirawi said. "In 1981 we were refining more oil, paying less for Saudi Arabian crude and making more money on the spot market. "As a result profit margins on our refinery operations have been reduced," the Minister said. Bapco's Chief Executive, Mr Don Hepburn confirmed that the company is looking closely at all areas of expenditure. But he said any cuts which are made will not affect the company's long term development. "We are seeking to reduce our capital spending and to make cuts in our operating expense budget but any measures we take will be short-term."--GTNS. [Text] [Doha WEEKLY GULF TIMES in English 29 Apr 82 p 24]

CSO: 4400/280

SALE OF DEVELOPMENT BONDS

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 18 Mar 82 p 12

[Article by Hasan 'Amir: "Development Bonds for Sale to Egyptian Citizens"]

[Text] The Interest Rate Will Be 12 Percent, and They Will Be Non-Taxable.

During the First Period 500 Million Egyptian Pounds Worth of Bonds [Will Be Made Available].

It has been decided to issue development bonds in Egyptian pounds and in dollars at an interest rate of 12 percent, payable every 6 months. The bonds will be tax-exempt, will be made available for subscription by Egyptian citizens, and banks will not be allowed to subscribe to them until the last period.

The proceeds will be used to finance the development and reconstruction of the Sinai. The value of the first issue of bonds will total about 500,000 Egyptian pounds. The Capital Market Authority, headed by Counsellor Mahmud Fahmi, has set up the new bonds' project within the limitations announced by Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, minister of planning, who said that the state budget requires 150 million Egyptian pounds to pay for the projects, 157 million Egyptian pounds to develop the Sinai, and 620 million Egyptian pounds for projects included in the national plan.

The Authority assured us that circumstances now favor the success of the transactions of selling the new bonds, and based this point of view on the following:

1. All the government bonds up for sale and circulation mature no later than 1 January 1986.
2. Bonds currently are maturing in great amounts. For example, 35 million Egyptian pounds worth of jihad bonds matured 1 March of this year, \$81 million of development bonds mature 1 August 1984, \$118 million mature 1 November 1984, jihad bonds worth 10 million [Egyptian pounds] mature that same month, etc.

3. Rapid maturity of the bonds, in the opinion of the Authority, means that individuals and companies will have additional liquidity available, whereas the national interest requires that this liquidity be absorbed in order to protect the market from inflation and channel savings into production projects.

4. All economic studies confirm the existence of capital surpluses which have not been invested in the marketplace and which are being channelled toward expenditures on luxury items and consumer goods instead of being invested.

The source of these surpluses is: Egyptians working abroad, commercial business, and salaries earned by those working in the sectors of Arab and foreign investments and tourism.

The national interest requires that these surpluses be converted into savings at fixed interest rates.

The Authority proposed that the bonds be in small denominations, have various maturity dates, have interest rates of 11.5 percent for 5-year bonds and 12 percent for 10-year bonds, and that the bonds be registered at the stock exchange 3 months after being put up for sale in order to assure the possibility of their being paid off at any time the bureau chooses.

[The Authority] proposed that the bonds be exempt from all types of both current and future fees and taxes, and be issued with a guarantee by the Central Bank.

9468

CSO: 4504/260

SECURITY OF FOOD SUPPLY DISCUSSED

Cairo UKTUBAR in Arabic No 280, 7 Mar 82 pp 43-45

[Article by Muhsin Hasanayn: "When Will There Be a Secure Food Supply?!"]

[Text] Whenever there are signs of a crisis or shortage in any food commodity, all of us, without exception, quickly gather and stand in a long line in front of the nearest consumer cooperative, awaiting our share of this commodity!!

We might be lucky. But we might be unlucky, in which case we will end up empty-handed and then have to go look for another line to stand in in front of another cooperative, in an attempt to get some sort of food!!

When determining the scope of any particular phenomenon, one usually follows scientific approaches such as research, thorough investigation, measurement, and then one feeds the results of this into a computer. But in our country we can measure the scope of any problem simply by seeing how long the lines [in front of stores] are which are being caused by this problem!!

There is an old and non-sensical joke which started going around at one time and is still being told. It concerns a man who was resting on a street, and then found that a long line of people had formed behind him. They had thought that he was the first in a line in front of a consumer cooperative. When the people found out otherwise, they all left--except for the man himself who believed the people and did not budge from his place because he wanted to stay first in line. This joke emphasizes the scope of the problem, or tragedy, which we are suffering from because of these lines. This also reflects how difficult it is for us to obtain any commodity, even onions and garlic!!

Of course, it is not my purpose to arouse feelings of frustration on the part of all of those who read these words. Every problem, no matter how involved or how complicated it is, has a solution!

But the phenomenon of lines in front of the consumer cooperatives in our country is a strange one. It reflects conditions which require decisive action so that we can eliminate this phenomenon, that is, so that we can provide foodstuffs for all of our citizens at reasonable prices!

Since the mid-sixties we have been standing in lines in front of consumer cooperatives in order to buy the chicken which we are so fond of. We stood in endlessly long lines, and are still doing so! Recently we have even been standing in lines to buy meat, soap, rice, tea, sugar, and even onions and garlic!!

We need to stop and take our time to deal with this problem, and to take decisive and tough practical measures in order to solve the problem. For example, onions and garlic are not nearly so important for the great majority of our citizens as is bread. They can get along without onions and garlic for a long time and not feel that they are lacking anything. They will not starve to death if they cannot get onions or garlic. But the shortage which has occurred in the distribution of onions and garlic--commodities which are not so important in our lives--is a reflection of a very dangerous trend. The trend is that shortages can occur in any food commodity, even onions and garlic. For this reason, we need to hasten to remedy the situation so that these shortages do not occur with other commodities and do not get out of hand!

The Scope of the Problem As Expressed in Figures

The lines in front of the cooperatives plainly indicate that a large number of our citizens are "competing with each other" to obtain a limited quantity of goods from a limited number of distribution outlets.

The degree to which these lines are widespread is closely linked to how much of these commodities we produce and consume. With every increase in the unfavorable gap between production and consumption, there is an increase in the number of lines, that is, an increase in the number of people who wish to acquire these commodities.

I believe that so far there are no definite and accurate figures concerning the size of our future consumption of the various foodstuff commodities. All that is being done right now is to estimate the size of future consumption on the basis of present rates of consumption.

The Production Committee's report dealing with agricultural policy has cited detailed statistics concerning the scope of our production and consumption of, as well as our degree of self-sufficiency in, the most important food crops in 1980.

The report says that we produced 1,796,000 tons of wheat whereas our consumption of wheat was 6,300,000 tons, that is, we were only about 28 percent self-sufficient in wheat!!

Our production of white rice was 1,643,000 tons, as compared with our consumption of white rice which was 1,522,000 tons, and this means that we were 108 percent self-sufficient in white rice.

Our sugar production was 660,000 tons, whereas our consumption of sugar was 1,042,000 tons, that is, we were only 63 percent self-sufficient in sugar.

Our poultry production was 128,000 tons, as compared with 186,000 tons of poultry which we consumed, that is, we were only 69 percent self-sufficient in poultry.

Our production of fish totalled 168,000 tons, and our fish consumption was 298,000 tons, that is, we were only 56 percent self-sufficient in fish!!

This report shows that there are basic foodstuffs of which Egypt produces less than half of what it needs. In fact, in the case of some food commodities such as wheat, the degree of self-sufficiency is only about one-fourth of the country's needs.

The report indicates that there are two basic standpoints from which we should view this gap in food production. First of all, our amount of consumption has increased because our population's need for food has increased. This is due, on the one hand, to the fact that our population has increased, and is also due to the fact that there has been an increase in the rate of [individual] consumption among our population. This increase in rate of consumption is due to a large degree to the redistribution of wealth and income and to the fact that the working classes wish to increase their level and rate of food consumption.

Secondly, the prices of foodstuffs are escalating due to the fact that there is a surplus of food production in the developed countries and they have chosen to follow the policy of raising the prices on their foodstuffs in order to make up for the increase in oil prices and to provide their peoples with more income.

Therefore the size of the gap which presently exists between production and consumption of foodstuffs, and the importing of foodstuffs in order to cover consumption requirements and the fact that this necessitates spending a large part of our available resources on importing food--all of this presents us with a very complicated matter!

One can realize the seriousness of the situation if he takes a quick look at the constant increases in the importing of foodstuffs which have been taking place year after year. In 1970 our total food imports amounted to about 73 million Egyptian pounds. In 1974 this figure was about 398 million Egyptian pounds, in 1978 it was about 540 million Egyptian pounds, and by 1979 it went up to about 864 million Egyptian pounds.

According to Ministry of Supply estimates, it is anticipated that in the year 2000 we will be importing the following percentages of our foodstuffs, bearing in mind the size of our production and anticipated consumption: 85 percent of our wheat, 38 percent of our rice, 78 percent of our legumes, 80 percent of our sugar, and 34 percent of our poultry and fish.

Perhaps this situation makes clear to us how important and serious our food supply problem is and what needs to be accomplished in order to achieve appropriate agricultural development in the field of agricultural production in general and in the field of food production in particular so that we may narrow the present food production gap and cut down on its anticipated dimensions.

A Tour of the Marketplaces!

UKTUBAR made a tour of the marketplaces in order to become acquainted with their shortages in food commodities and the reasons for these shortages.

The fact is that in the marketplaces there are situations which are stranger than fiction. For example, Egyptian fruits have entirely disappeared and their place has been taken by imported fruits. Whenever there are some types of Egyptian fruits available, they are either in deplorable condition and are expensive, or else they are of good quality but more expensive than the imported fruits!

There are no more ripe bananas in the marketplaces. Instead of this there are two kinds of bananas available. One is a very small green Egyptian banana, the price of which ranges between 35 and 50 piasters per kilogram. The other kind is a large ripe banana, the price of which is 77.5 piasters per kilogram, and it tastes just like a cucumber!! These are the only types of bananas there are!

There is a type of imported strawberry available, the price of which "startles" you at first because it ranges between 250 and 400 piasters per kilogram. This is merely a casual observation on our part, because strawberries are not one of the basic fruits which our citizens eat!!

The type of orange known as Abu (Srah) completely disappeared from the marketplace 3 weeks ago. Those who sell oranges will only tell you that all of the Abu (Srah) oranges have gone for export and that there are none left which can be sold in the marketplaces!!

Now let us turn to fish--and logically Egypt is a fish-producing country. If you go to any fish market, you will think that you have entered Shawaribi Street by mistake. There are no types of fish for sale at a price less than 200 piasters!

For example, boliti costs between 200 and 250 piasters per kilogram. Gray mullet and eels cost 4 Egyptian pounds [per kilogram]. The prices of other types of fish are in the price range between the prices mentioned above. The thing that really startles you at the fish market is that shrimp costs only between 15 and 18 Egyptian pounds per kilogram!

I am citing these examples eagerly because fish is the natural protein alternative to red and white meat, and it is one of the cheapest types of nutrition in most nations of the world. Furthermore, fish production does not require any of the expenses of raw materials which are necessary for producing the other types of animal products. Fish do not need any fodder, health care, or places of shelter!!

In view of the length of our coastline along the Mediterranean and Red Seas, and in view of the fact that we have the Nile River with all of the delicious types of fish found in it, we can be sure that the mismanagement of our fish resources which is occurring right now is a "scandal," as an Egyptian minister in the government said a week ago!

It is also a scandal that we are finding inferior types of imported fish dominating the marketplace when all we need to do to correct the situation is to concentrate our efforts on exploiting the available fish resources which we have.

It is strange that more and more importing is taking place. The 1980/81 budget provided for the importing of 150,000 tons of fish. This was in addition to the fish we have available in Lake Nasser, which is estimated at about 25,000 tons a year. No comment about this is necessary!

Even You, Oh Onion!

By analogy with the famous and historic exclamatory utterance "Even you, oh Brutus" [~~E~~ tu, Brute], we could really say, as a commentary on our current onion and garlic crisis, "Even you, oh onion"!!

At the time that we were trying to deal with the shortages which existed in a number of commodities, we were hit by the onion and garlic crisis. So far the explanation for the shortage of onions and garlic in the marketplace, according to the minister of agriculture, has been the fact that the crop growers have not been adhering to their crop structure.

Furthermore, the price of onions last year made the growers--may God forgive them--start using less area for the planting of onions this year!

As a result of this, and in accordance with the law of supply and demand, the price of a kilogram of onions went up to 50 piasters per kilogram. This is still the prevailing price in the marketplaces, and supply is still less than demand!

For just a few days the [Consumer] cooperatives sold a type of onion known as the "half-breed" [haji]--which is like a cross between a green onion and a normal onion. This type of onion is not fit to be used for any purpose first of all because it is not ripe and secondly because it spoils. For this reason the cooperatives stopped selling any onions!!

In any case, the onion crisis will end because the authorities have taken steps to correct the situation. The minister of agriculture recently stated that 1,000 feddans in the two governorates of Bani Suwayf and al-Minya have been planted [with onions], and that other efforts are under way to bring us out of this current crisis and to endeavor to eliminate it in the future.

When talking about shortages in food supplies, we must bring up the problem of chickens the supply of which we ourselves cut back on in order to study the problem and thus we began to search everywhere for imported chickens.

Dr Yusuf Wali, the minister of agriculture, states that we do not need to import frozen chickens, and he is right. At the same time, Mr Ahmad Nuh, the minister of supply, assures us that our production of chickens is not sufficient, and that we therefore need to continue to import frozen chickens, and he is also right--for the time being!

In the midst of all of this Dr Yusuf Wali has issued another statement in which he emphasized that it is necessary to stop issuing new licenses to local poultry farms because we already have enough of them. The poultry [farms] were at a loss as to what to do because of conflicting statements concerning granting, and forbidding the granting of, [licenses for poultry farms]. The truth is that we consumers are fed up with these statements and decisions, and what we demand now is to have chicken to eat!

In order that we not do injustice to anybody and not discuss the matter emotionally and merely play around with words and expressions, we will present a review of all of the statistics available to us concerning our chicken production, the number of poultry farms which exist, the problems which they are facing, how large our poultry consumption is, how much poultry we import, and what price supports the government provides for chicken which the state budget must bear. These are certainly the most important points which we should be talking about.

Production, Consumption, and Price Supports!!

Ministry of Agriculture statistics say that our chicken production last year was about 136,000 tons, whereas our consumption was about 216,000 tons. We imported 80,000 tons in order to cover the difference between our production and our consumption.

The strange thing is that the poultry farms which we have now, and which total 10,733 private farms, in addition to public sector and investment sector farms, are able to produce about 265,000 tons [of chicken], that is, 50,000 tons more than what our needs are! The thing which keeps our present poultry farms from reaching this objective, which is the production of 265,000 tons a year and to make it possible for us to stop importing frozen chickens, is the shortage of fodder and the high prices of fodder.

The price per ton of fodder ranges between 100 and 220 Egyptian pounds, depending on the fodder's ingredients and the percentage of protein which it has. About 3 years ago the price per ton of fodder ranged between 76 and 102 Egyptian pounds.

Fodder consists of crushed maize, ground fish, soybeans, Egyptian broad beans, mineral salts, and vitamins.

Another obstacle [to more poultry production] has been that there is no specialized apparatus or body of people who educate and instruct the poultry farmers and citizens in matters concerning the raising of chickens, what the prerequisites are for poultry farms, and what sanitary measures should be followed in connection with poultry farms.

Ministry of Supply statistics indicate that the 1980/81 budget provided for the importation of 85,000 tons of frozen chickens costing \$110 million. [According to these budget statistics], price supports in connection with the imported chickens totalled 26.3 million Egyptian pounds!!

This year for the first time the government is allocating money for the importation of 160 million eggs. This is equivalent to 10 percent of our domestic egg production!!

We have contracted to import frozen chickens from the U.S., Brazil, France, and Denmark, and the average cost per ton of these chickens, by the time it reaches our ports, is about 1,310 Egyptian pounds. The price per kilogram [of such frozen chickens] totals about 140 piasters, whereas the price set for the sale of these chickens to the consumers has been 105 piasters--and was raised to 115 piasters starting last 1 January. At the same time, the price per kilogram of local chickens is 125 piasters.

Licenses were issued to private sector merchants to import, during the period from 8 August of last year to 10 January of this year, 7,630 tons of frozen chickens, 1,279 tons of chicken thighs, 386 tons of chicken livers, 350 tons of frozen turkeys, 1,333 tons of turkey drumsticks, 953 tons of turkey thighs, and 229 tons of turkey livers.

The reasons for the difference between the price of imported chicken and local chicken are the increase in production by private sector farms, complaints by poultry farmers about reduction of the price of local chickens, the fact that the merchants have control over the chaotic situation characterized by reduced prices, and the fear that this will affect reduced production. For this reason it has been decided that the slaughterhouses currently in existence which belong to both the public and private sectors should receive live chickens from the private farms at a price of 100 piasters per kilogram, and that the Ministry of Supply companies should receive these chickens, after they have been prepared, at a price of 140 piasters per kilogram and then sell them at the consumer cooperatives at a price of 125 piasters per kilogram after adding price supports.

The fact is that local chickens have completely disappeared from the marketplace, and if there are any left at all, their prices range between 210 and 225 piasters per kilogram. Imported chickens are available in great abundance in the markets, but consumers, for numerous reasons, are refraining from buying them. Some of these reasons might be psychological, especially since recently tons of imported chickens were seized which were unfit for human consumption. Also, the expression "slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law," which was written on the outside covering of each imported chicken, did not sway the consumers to buy these chickens because in Kuwait they found this expression written on the bags of fish imported from abroad.

What Is Needed Is a Chicken Coop in Every Home

Actually we cannot put the entire blame on the government. In fact, part of the blame must rest with our citizens.

What the government must do, for example, is to conduct an overall study concerning what our needs will be in terms of the various foodstuffs from now until, for example, the year 2000 or till some other date in the future. This

study should be linked to our anticipated production of these commodities during this period of time, and [the government] should attempt, by using all possible means, to reconcile this production and consumption.

There is also the role which our citizens must play in increasing production and in exercising control over their consumption at the same time. If each citizen could perform his role well, starting right now we would not hear any more about any shortages or lines. We would no longer be hearing that onions, garlic, or chickens are being slaughtered according to Islamic law.

Consumption control means that each citizen determines his actual requirements and his family's requirements in terms of foodstuffs, and eliminates all excess and waste. For example, if each of us buys the amount of bread which he really needs, our consumption of bread would decrease and this would allow the bakeries, which are operating day and night, to improve their product and our improved bread would become something worthy of its name. This certainly would lead to the disappearance of inferior bread which is full of sand and other types of strange foreign substances. This is only one example, and there are many other examples which could be cited.

The role which our citizens can play in production is simply to have each citizen "conscientiously" perform his job, as we are accustomed to saying, so that he can contribute toward increasing production and decreasing the vast difference between consumption and production.

What is strange and deplorable at the same time is the fact that rural Egypt, which used to be an important producer of foodstuffs, as of not too long ago began to depend upon Egypt's urban areas for what it consumes.

The peasant women who used to raise chickens, for example, now have started buying frozen imported chickens. The same is true with regard to eggs. This is a very dangerous situation, and it could sabotage any efforts engaged in by the government to eliminate shortages in foodstuffs.

I would like to bluntly and directly call upon Egyptian peasant women to immediately put chicken coops back in their houses and once again perform their beautiful traditional role which used to be an exemplary one in terms of how to struggle to achieve self-sufficiency.

Right now in the Governorate of al-Jizah they are attempting to have Egyptian peasant women once again play their traditional role in production. According to Dr Nazik Salih, director of the Village Construction and Development Office, the governorate is furnishing one-day-old chicks to the peasant women and instructing them concerning the sound scientific way of raising them and obtaining meat and eggs from them.

The Village Construction and Development Office is also distributing peking ducks to the peasant women. The Governorate of al-Jizah, as a whole, is attempting to reach the stage of self-sufficiency in terms of meat, poultry, and eggs. It is attempting to do this by means of setting up farms belonging

to the local people and providing these farms with one-day-old chicks, fodder, tools, and supervision in veterinary matters. This is only one living example of an experimental attempt to achieve self-sufficiency in one of Egypt's governorates. We hope that this experiment will extend to other governorates, so that there will be more prosperity in all of our country.

Then we would have no more food supply problems, and there would be no more endlessly long lines in front of the consumer cooperatives.

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CSO: 4504/260

MARSH GAS BIOGAS APPLICATIONS DESCRIBED

Beijing GUANGMING RIBAO in Chinese 15 Mar 82, p 4

[Article by Fu Fuyuan [5394 4395 3220], staff reporter in Cairo: "Bright Future for the Utilization of Marsh Gas--A Visit to the Egyptian Village of Vushtahir That Is A Test Point for Marsh Gas Utilization"]

[Text] Mushtahir was originally an ordinary Egyptian village. For over a year, it has become known throughout the nation as a testing ground to develop marsh gas in farm villages. To understand the utilization of marsh gas in the Egyptian farm village, we went to visit this small but prosperous village on the Nile Delta.

Marsh Gas--A New Developing Energy Source in Farm Villages

Dr Samir, who accompanied us on the trip, is the deputy chief of the marsh gas development plan for Egyptian farm villages. Last September, he visited China. As soon as we entered the village, he pointed at the stalks piled up in front and in back of houses and cattle dung being dried along the road and told us: For thousands of years, they have always been the main energy sources in Egyptian villages. According to statistics, one-third of the energy sources consumed in Egyptian farm villages at present is stalks from agricultural crops, and almost all cotton stalks, corn stalks, sorghum stalks and a fairly large amount of rice stalks and wheat stalks are burned, and more than one-third of cattle dung is used as fuel. This is a waste and unsanitary. Although many villages have electricity and kerosene, the state has to subsidize hundreds of millions of Egyptian pounds each year. As the population in the villages increases, the problem of energy will become more serious. And it is necessary to find new energy sources. Among the new energy sources, the utilization of marsh gas is simple and easy, there are rich raw materials and it is very suitable for popularization in Egyptian villages with a dense population.

Dr Samir told us that the farm village marsh gas plan in Egypt has a direct relation to China. When Dr 'Ala'-al-Din of the Egyptian Agricultural Research Center visited China in April of 1977 he learned about the situation of utilizing marsh gas in Chinese farm villages. He praised it very much and after his return to his country he suggested that utilization of marsh gas in farm villages be popularized in Egypt and he received the support of concerned departments. In 1978, he built Egypt's first marsh gas pit according to

blueprints brought back from China. Later, under the direction of Dr 'Ala'-al-Din, the effort received the support of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. The current plan to develop marsh gas in the farm villages was drawn up. In the spring of 1981, another delegation was sent to China and some other nations to inspect. After it returned, it began an experiment to popularize the utilization of marsh gas at Mushtahir.

As a test point, Mushtahir built 6 different types of marsh gas pits. The marsh gas produced supplied farm families and the village's hospital, school, animal feeding farm and mosque. In the state-run animal feeding farm in the village, we saw a marsh gas pit with a capacity of 35 cubic meters. It uses cattle dung, chicken droppings and other forms of waste as raw material. The marsh gas produced is used for lighting and warming the chicken barns. The waste from the production of marsh gas is used as fertilizer for the farmland near the animal feeding farm. All materials are utilized to the utmost and a benevolent cycle has been formed. A farmer named Hammud was the first farm family to use marsh gas in Egypt. He has built a marsh gas pit in his yard and he uses the dung from the two head of cattle he has and stalks from crops as raw material. The daily output of marsh gas can reach 3 to 6 cubic meters. This not only satisfies the fuel needs of his family of 7 members, 40 to 50 cubic meters of fertilizers can also be produced a year, enough for applying in his own 4 feddan (one feddan is about 6.3 shi mu) of land. The marsh gas stove has been rebuilt from a common Egyptian coal gas stove. The flame is not weaker than that produced by coal gas. The marsh gas lamp was brought from China by Dr Samir. The light is bright. The housewife praised marsh gas again and again as clean, convenient and practical. Dr Samir told us that because many people have seen the benefits of marsh gas, many farm families have proposed to help them build marsh gas pits.

Emphasizing the Popularization of the Experience of the Test Locality.

To manage the test point well and popularize the utilization of marsh gas, the Egyptian Agricultural Research Center conducted an overall survey of energy consumption and marsh gas resources in Egyptian farm villages. It also carefully observed and studied the amount of gas produced and the changes in the composition of the gas produced by various types of marsh gas raw materials under different conditions in the laboratory. It has accumulated massive data. To absorb broad international experience in the utilization of marsh gas, Mushtahir village built three different types of marsh gas pits, a Chinese style pit, an Indian style pit and a mixed type. Egyptian scientific and research personnel also improved the design of these three types of marsh gas pits according to the characteristics of Egyptian farm villages and according to test results. They enlarged the volume of the fermentation pit and increased the output of gas. The Agricultural Research Center also emphasized the utilization of byproducts of marsh gas and conducted detailed analysis of the composition, fertility, and the presence of bacteria in the residues after the raw materials fermented and produced marsh gas. It also conducted a comparative experiment to compare marsh gas pit fertilizer, chemical fertilizer

and indigenous fertilizers in the farmland at Mushtahir village. In the experimental wheat fields, people saw that in the wheat fields applied with marsh gas pit fertilizers, the wheat plants were the healthiest. Dr Samir told us, the comparative experiment of different fertilizers applied in corn fields conducted last year also showed that increased yields were common in fields applied with marsh gas pit fertilizers, and some fields increased yield by nearly 30 percent. In the past, Egyptian farm villages did not return stalks to the fields. The utilization of marsh gas can change stalks into good fertilizers and improve the deficiency of organic fertilizers in Egyptian farm villages.

The experiment at Mushtahir has received the attention of all sectors in Egypt. Now, the Egyptian Agricultural Research Center will enlarge the experiment to 6 villages in 4 provinces. The Egyptian National Research Center, University of Cairo, al-Fayyum Agricultural College, the Agricultural College of Alexandria University have also built their own marsh gas experimental stations. Dr Samir said, the plan to develop marsh gas in agriculture is still at the beginning stage. Because the one-time investment in building marsh gas pits is large, and because state subsidies for oil and electricity are high, it is still difficult to popularize marsh gas on an overall basis. But the state is placing more and more emphasis on the popularization of marsh gas. In a recent report by the Committee on Production of the Egyptian National Consultative Conference, the committee asked the government to further emphasize and develop the energy resources in farm villages that can be regenerated, especially marsh gas, and proposed corresponding policy measures. The Egyptian Electric Power and Energy Ministry has already included marsh gas, solar energy and wind energy as ways to solve the future needs for energy in Egypt in the energy development plans. The Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture plans to gradually popularize the experience of Mushtahir throughout the nation and to strive towards the goal of providing 1 million farm families with marsh gas over a period of ten years. In this way, expenditure for kerosene will be reduced and each year about 100 million Egyptian pounds can be saved for the state.

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CSO: 4013/38

EGYPT

BRIEFS

ALEXANDRIA PORT CONGESTION ENDS--Alexandria--Congestion has disappeared in the port of Alexandria because the port is continuously in operation 24 hours a day and because of the policy of increasing the incentives granted to the port workers. Maj Gen Jalal Fahmi, head of the Port Authority, stated that three floating silos and the 'Ajami oil pipeline have been put into operation. Furthermore, completion of current projects by the end of 1983 will once and for all eliminate the congestion. These projects will mean the mechanization of Piers 81 and 88, the setting up of a grain silo with a capacity of 100,000 tons, and the setting up of a cold storage unit with a capacity of 6,000 tons. In addition to this, the area equipped with all types of cranes for moving containers around will be put into operation. [By Muhammad 'Abd al-Majid] [Text] [Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 21 Mar 82 p 3] 9468

PRESIDENT'S WIFE INAUGURATES PROJECT--Yesterday the wife of the president of the republic inaugurated the charity market of the Association for Right to Life for the Mentally Handicapped in the Heliopolis Club in Heliopolis. The inauguration was attended by Dr Amal 'Uthman, minister of social insurance and minister of state for social affairs, and the wife of Ambassador 'Uthman Fawzi, who is the president of the association. [Text] [Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 20 Mar 82 p 6] 9468

CSO: 4504/260

OPPOSITION LEADERS COMMENT ON KHORRAMSHAHR VICTORY

GF261843 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
26 May 82

[Text] Dr 'Ali Ameyni, the first prime minister of the (?exile government of Iran, set up by the Iranian Liberation Front), and (?by the Iranian patriots), [words indistinct] a real spiritual, progressive and anti-imperialist organization, with strong support inside Iran, and which recently expressed opposition to the mullahs and the Khomeyni Islamic regime by holding widespread demonstrations outside Iran, has issued a statement today which was published in Paris. [Dr 'Ali Ameyni] discussed the recent events in the war and said that the recent victories of the Iranian Army should not become an excuse for the decisionmakers of the confusion-mongering regime in Iran to impose what may be termed as Islamic imperialism through aggression, on small Muslim countries in the neighborhood or plunge the Middle East into trouble and confusion, or open the way for the big powers of the world to interfere in the region.

In his statement, Dr 'Ali Ameyni said that the usurping government of Iran, throughout the war, has been turning the patriotic sentiments of the armed forces and the people of Iran, regarding defense of the country, to its own advantage, and has been counting this as its own victory. However, soon the people of Iran will deal with the internal enemies of Iran who have usurped power, and they will live in freedom and security.

The National Resistance Council of Iran also issued a statement, saying that Khomeyni has no excuse for continuing the war with Iraq. Mas'ud Rajavi, a prominent member of the National Resistance Council, commenting on the possible disengagement of troops, suggested that now, after this the guns should be turned against the Khomeyni regime. He added that the Khomeyni regime, which has little chance of survival except by continuing to create crises or continuing clashes, or even by creating new crises, following recent changes in the fortunes of war, has played its final card for keeping a lid on army problems and dissatisfaction among the Iranian people. The recent events will cause the majority, and especially the anticonservatives in the army, to take a stand for freeing Iran.

Mas'ud Rajavi, in his statement, said the nations and the sheikhs in the region should be warned that they should not be influenced by Khomeyni's propaganda and should desist from rendering any kind of aid that works against the interests of the Iranian people. Creating peace and stability and friendship in the region, especially with the person of Khomeyni, is (?not commended). It will only mortgage the Iranian democratic state.

CSO: 4640/307

IRAN

NATIONAL FRONT ISSUES STATEMENT ON WAR

GF271627 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
27 May 82

[Text] The National Front of Iran issued a statement in Paris. The statement, while condemning the regime of the mullahs, states that the establishment of territorial and national sovereignty cannot be attained except by a popular, democratic and national government. The self-sacrificing soldiers, NCO's and officers of Iran should know that the main enemy of our history and nation, the enemy of our flag and national tradition, the enemy of our freedom and independence is still unjustly wielding power in our homeland and has the entire holy soil of Iran under occupation.

The National Front statement stresses that the ruling regime is preparing to weaken or even purge the army in order to stop the expansion of the national prestige of the army and in order to stop any nationalist move by it. The National Front, like the Movement for the Liberation of Iran, notes that it is the national duty to unite and work in a coordinated program to topple the usurping regime of the mullahs.

Several days ago, Reza Pahlavi, the eldest son of the late shah, also stressed the need to unify organizations and nationalist groups opposing the regime of mullahs for a move toward a destiny-making and promising revolution. Reza Pahlavi stressed that only a coordinated and united national revolution will end the rule of mullahs--the usurpers of the nationalist rule--in Iran.

CSO: 4640/307

IRAN

CLANDESTINE RADIO ON LOSS, OTHERS' GAIN IN WAR

GF211042 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
20 May 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] In the Iran-Iraq war, when the fury and force of guns, mortar launchers and missiles does not achieve anything, the bulldozers take over. These bulldozers dig trenches, set up sand barriers, make pathways over marshes for the passage of tanks, open up roads in the hills and mountains; in short, these bulldozers play a fundamental role in a war which takes place on shifting sands. Without these, work does not progress.

For those who are involved in the war, it is astonishing how (?the moment) a bulldozer is destroyed, another appears in its place. But for those who delve deeper into the issue, the problem does not seem ambiguous. These bulldozers are made by the Japanese, who dearly wish that at least 2,000 of them should be destroyed daily so that 2,000 replacement bulldozers may be delivered and thus they may increase their exports. In the same way, the Germanies enthusiastically sell their means of transportation and trucks. The French sell their helicopters and mirages, the Soviets sell their miscellaneous weapons, including the smaller guns which are eagerly provided in large numbers, the United States sells its phantoms, electronic equipment, surface-to-air and air-to-surface missiles, etc, [name indistinct] countries sell their chieftain tanks and their spare parts and the countries which act as oil-brokers grease their mustaches and pocket the income, thus reaping enormous benefits for themselves.

For example, although it is said that the Soviets do not provide arms to Iran, the weapons that they send to Iran are sent via Syria. The Syrians act as brokers between the Iranians and the Soviets and take commissions for the deals that are finalized through them. A similar service is provided by the Israelis for the United States. The Islamic Republic of Khomeyni persists in saying that it is the archenemy of the United States, and claims, day and night, that it wants to wipe out Israel from the Middle East region. The truth is to the contrary, because not only does it have a dire need for spare parts for U.S. weapons, but to purchase them, Iran goes so far as to sell its oil to the United States through middlemen and spends the income from the sales to purchase the necessary equipment which

only the United States can provide. Khomeyni feels no embarrassment about buying these U.S. goods from Israel.

In this state of affairs, it is only the nation involved in a war that bears the brunt from all sides, because this accursed war has inflicted infinite moral and material losses and (?blows) on our unfortunate country, which are not easy to compensate. During the course of the 20-month-long war, some of the losses include destruction of many cities and villages installations in the productive area of Khezestan and in other provinces in western Iran. In reconstructing these areas, if we invest and strive for many years, we may not be able to repair the damage, because the 100,000 youths who have been killed will not be returned to life. For the 200,000 war-disabled who have lost their limbs and health and will continue to struggle to the ends of their lives, or for the more than a million people who have been deprived of their homes and hearths, a thousand and one difficulties crop up in any attempts to rehabilitate them. The most daunting aspect is the shattered and (?precarious) state of the economy of the country, because the factories are at a standstill, the workers unemployed, agriculture and animal husbandry haphazard, rural residents aimless, there is inflation, prices are spiraling, there are food and clothing shortages, the exchequer is (?depleted and in ruins) and there is a government that does not know how to put the wheels of the country in motion and with what source of energy.

CSO: 4640/307

STRATEGIC ROLE OF AWACS IN GULF WAR DISCUSSED

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL 12 May 82 p 2

[Text]

In a brilliantly executed 10-day operation code-named Fath-ul-Mubeen (manifest victory), starting on 22, March, the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran decimated the entire Fourth Army of Ba'athist Iraq.

The Fourth Army which numbered about 50,000 soldiers was chiefly responsible for the thrust into Iran's southern oil-bearing province of Khuzistan in September 1980 in the Fath-ul-Mubeen offensive. Iraqi troops entrenched on the western banks of the Karkeh river between the cities of Shush and Dezful were pushed back to within four miles of the border, thus purging about 2,200 square kilometers of the Islamic Republic's territory of Ba'athist invaders. More than 15,000 Iraqi soldiers, including 300 commissioned officers were taken as prisoners of war and some 20,000 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded. About ??? tanks were destroyed and another 100 captured intact. A vast quantity of ammunition was also secured.

The stunning success of the Fath-ul-Mubeen operation came as no surprise to those who had witnessed the spectacular victory around Abadan last summer, and the slicing of the Iraqi command in Bostan in December 1981. After the lifting of the siege of Abadan by the Islamic forces, last November, Saddam was forced to announce a tactical 'withdrawal' from the east bank of the Karun river. After the liberation of the

strategic border town of Bostan, Saddam was reduced to announcing a counter-offensive at the Chazabbe pass. When this suffered heavy casualties all mention was dropped. In the wake of the decimation of his entire Fourth Army he has announced yet another 'withdrawal' for regrouping.

The war-weary Iraqi public, which is becoming increasingly restless as the human toll of the invasion mounts (estimates of Iraqi soldiers killed now stand at between 50,000 and 60,000), has now lost faith in Saddam's propaganda. They have witnessed the total manpower and armament facilities of the Islamic Republic being destroyed twice over by the Iraqi army. Credibility of Saddam's regime has dropped to its lowest ebb, and each successive blow by the Islamic army is bringing Saddam's fall closer to realization.

It has belatedly dawned on the international community that an isolated and embargoed Iran is about to inflict a comprehensive defeat on their protégé in the region. Those who have not shown any indignation over Iraq's eighteen month presence on Iran's territory, are worried about Iran's intentions, particularly as regards taking the war to Iraqi territory.

Globally organized financial, material, and manpower help for Iraq has not enabled it to withstand the onslaught of the Islamic forces.

The superpowers and their allies, who always fight by proxy, have supplied all kinds of armaments to Saddam. Gulf rulers have dug deep into their pockets, and passed on some US\$25 billion. The time has come to stand up and be counted. King Husein seems to be in two minds about his boast to personally lead the so-called 'Yarmouk' brigade. Shaykh Zayd of the UAE has 'realized' that Israel and not Islamic Iran is the Arabs' primary enemy. The people of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait can hardly wait to see their ruling families go and so cannot be prevailed upon to join hands with Saddam. It remains for the ruling families to send their countless princes to the front. Before they contemplate anything they should be reminded that there are no palaces in Iran's POW camps.

This leaves Egypt and its 100,000 soldiers being 'freed' this month as the Israeli 'withdrawal' in Sinai is completed. Naturally, the Saudi and Gulf sheikhs will forgive all and welcome 'brother' Mubarak to the fold. Washington will also be pleased, and that seems to be the sheikhs' only worry these days.

Inside Iran, leading Iraqi leaders have begun to organize more seriously for the impending takeover. Fortunately for Iran, it will not be necessary to enter Iraq. Close observers of the Iraqi situation know that the Islamic resistance inside the country led by the Islamic Da'awah Party, is powerful and capable of taking over.

Iran's major worry is to contain the ambitions of outside power. The US and her allies may prop up a 'suitable' military ruler to take over from Saddam. Jordan and Saudi Arabia are already having forces inside Iraq to prop up their candidate.

Under the minute umbrella of the Saudi-funded and US-manned AWACS, the Islamic forces have routed the invading Ba'athists. With the lifting of the myth of the protection afforded by AWACS,

the question of seeking protection from Allah becomes evident. For this new role the Islamic Revolution in Iran is the unquestioned leader and with the Fath-ul-Mubeen operation commences the decisive end of US hegemony in the region. 'American Islam' based on AWACS and Rapid Deployment Forces is about to give way to the inheritors of the spirit of Badr and Hunayn.

(Courtesy Crescent Intl.)

CSO: 4600/483

CLANDESTINE RADIO QUOTES ANTIREGIME GROUP'S NEWSLETTER

GF240442 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 22 May 82

[Text of newsletter published by the Iranian Liberation Army: "The Vicissitudes of a Struggle"--date not given]

[Excerpts] The people of Iran bartered away their need for a series of social reforms in a (?phase) of the history of growth and welfare by resorting to a blind collusion. Today the same persons consider themselves responsible and not only do they try to rectify their wrong surmises and [word indistinct] but try to (?correct) their mistakes. The people of our country have been engaged in a mental conflict and introspection which they have now brought out into the open and have officially and publicly begun a struggle against those [words indistinct] individuals and those who have misguided the people.

When their flights of imagination reached a climax, the exaggeration and boastfulness of a mullah whose picture could be seen in the moon and who had styled himself as the vice regent of God on earth and the deputy of the (?hidden) imam out of sheer power lust was the only answer they received. With his deceptive promises and conduct toward the people, promises of free water, power, telephones, buses and housing, he distributed imaginary oil income in the fantasies of the people. In addition to granting them material necessities, he handed them the keys to elysium through a kind of suicide which he labeled 'martyrdom,' and the people blindly sacrificed the world and the (?hereafter) in his allegiance and deluded themselves into believing that they would become masters of a free and flourishing nation in this world, and of a corner of paradise in the next world.

A year had not elapsed when a schizophrenia manifested itself in the administration. In the second year of the administration of the superficial liars, the people initiated resistance, and in the third year they officially began the phase of open resistance. History will (?remember) the story of these (?insane) upheavals. In this awakening, the role of the political and military organizations play a very important part and the combatants of the first 3 years will be honored in the social history of Iran.

However, the weakness of the planning and security of this struggle causes losses in time, money and life for the combatants which is reason for sorrow and is a lesson to be learned. Due to selfish individual interests and enfeebled leadership, a war against Khomeyni's regime is transformed

into a war of nerves among our fellow combatants and the (?oppressed) and is a source of shame and regret.

We should not be daunted by the magnitude of the task or by the ups and downs of the struggle. Compatriots, God the succorer is with us. When lives are at stake for the goal, we should not be afraid of minor or peripheral issues. There are innumerable obstacles in our path, in our struggle against the turbaned antinational regime of Iran. The enemy has laid thousands of traps with its craftiness and (?cunning) to bait our fellow-combatants and to (?weaken) our struggle. In fact, it is possible it may send its own agents to infiltrate our ranks in the garb of our combatants and may commit treachery against us and create (?spurious) groups and organizations to deceive the people.

The nation is in the clutches of a satyr, a turbaned satyr. We are struggling against this diabolical being with all our ability and energy. Tomorrow will belong to those who rise against the regime of Khomeyni and rebel in a manly way.

CSO: 4640/307

FOREIGN POLICY OPTIONS TOWARD IRAQ EXAMINED

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 15 May 82 p 2

[Editorial by S. Moadab]

[Text]

One way of reasoning in logic is to reject what is proposed in order that a personal solution is accepted, if not imposed. The problem of expressing what type of regime we wish to come to power after the Iraqi dictator and his clique, is an instance of this expression of desire. With regards to the three editorials we have written last week we can draw the following conclusions:

1. The Iraqi people are impatiently looking forward to getting rid of the present repressive political system in Baghdad.

2. So far as the unrest in Iraq is concerned, it has been increasing recently indicating the practical manifestation of popular dissatisfaction. The discontent is rising because tens of thousands of Iraqi men have lost their lives due to the sell out of the men in power in Baghdad.

3. From the billions of petrodollars gained by the Ba'athist regime in the years it has been in power there is no doubt that only a minimum amount of it has been spent for the national welfare. The rest has either been trifled away by the "partisans" of the present regime or taken away by the multinationals. Of course, the share of the army should not be forgotten. Therefore, now that the Iraqi people are facing bitter realities; its natural resources on one hand, and thousands of its children on the other hand have been destroyed by the Ba'athist regime of Baghdad, someone in Iraq is answerable. Naturally among the ruling elite the persons most responsible should pay the biggest price.

4. After a bloody war between the Kurdish fighters and the dictatorial rulers of Baghdad a very fragile co-existence is in force in Iraq. According to past experiences a power vacuum in Baghdad will very probably liberate the Kurdish people

and in case an unwise policy is adopted more blood will be shed.

5. The Soviet Union which has had, till very recently a strong foothold in Iraq, will certainly try to take advantage of the new situation if no immediate step is taken to replace Saddam.

6. The U.S. too will try to destabilize the situation and try to create an internal war in our neighborhood. And, given that the reactionary states in the Arab world will help Washington to bring its own men in Baghdad we can imagine the consequences of such an act. Of course, if both superpowers could keep the present regime in power they would do so because this clique has shown its loyalty and dependence upon others.

7. Many people believe that because the French are deeply involved in Iraq we should mention them as another factor in our analysis. In our view to give such importance to France is a mistake because Mitterrand is already playing the role of the U.S. agent in Iraq, like in many other places of the world. If one knows that the transport minister of the French president, who is a radical Communist and the most important man in the French Communist Party has signed the order for buying U.S. Boeing jets for Air France, then it will be known why we have no hopes in the French Socialist government and we identify foreign policy in Paris with the policies dictated by Washington.

8. The great majority of the Iraqis are Muslim and as an ideal they want to see an Islamic political system in their homeland. For a long time Iraq has been one of the focal points of Islamic activities. The indirect influence of such an advantage for the people of Iraq is that for them, an Islamic government is the best system in the political, social and cultural arena. Also because the people of Iraq have experienced both superpowers, an independent government will be welcomed as well by the Iraqi people.

9. As it is the nature of any dictatorial system in which one individual has absolute power without having a popular base, internal rivalries among the Ba'athist clique will arise and the struggle for power will demand more bloodshed.

10. Though the outer world may not have a clear picture of power distribution in Iraq, thanks to the precise information reaching us, we know that in Iraq some political groups which have their allies abroad can create trouble either in the army or elsewhere in Iraq. Their "overseas" connection may give them the potential to emerge as a political factor, or at least in the long run they can be so because of their infiltration into different organs, in case of an unstable situation.

11. Iraq is a coup d'etat producing country. Prior to the present regime and since the fall of the imperial government in Baghdad, many short lived governments have come to

power. In case an imposed regime takes power in Baghdad we will see successive coups. This is, not only a catastrophe for the people of Iraq, it will also be a permanent source of preoccupation for the Islamic Republic.

These are some of the alternatives and realities which are present, or can come into existence in Baghdad. For us, it goes without saying that neither of the aforementioned possibilities is acceptable. The support the Muslim people of Iraq, express for the Islamic Republic, the common interest of both people of Iraq and Iran, our natural right of neighborhood which permits us not to be indifferent vis a vis the situation in Iraq, and most important of all, the absolute necessity that our conditions for ending the war be fulfilled, gives us a privileged position to remain alongside the people of Iraq and as a loyal fraternal government back their decision.

Refusing all imposed solutions some of which we counted above, whether they come from Moscow, Washington, Riyadh or elsewhere, we say that:

1. Because the people of Iraq do not want Saddam and because he must be punished as the man responsible for this war and other crimes we will back the people of Iraq in getting rid of him and his regime.

2. Because Iraq is a Muslim country, and because the people of Iraq prefer to see Islam in power in its homeland, we will back the decision of the Iraqi people to have their own Islamic government.

3. Any such government brought to power will be obliged to pay war compensation and receive the people who have been forced to leave their homes and children.

4. The fulfilment of our conditions should be realized as a whole. This means that we cannot accept any gradual solution.

— S. MOADAB

CSO: 4600/483

IRAN

CLANDESTINE RADIO ON RAJAVI'S VISITS TO IRAQ, SAUDI

NC250910 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] A Voice of Iran correspondent has reported from Paris that Mas'ud Rajavi, Bani-Sadr's prime minister in the National Resistance Council, was not prepared to confirm or refute reports on his recent visits to Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Our correspondent, who called the Rajavi-Bani-Sadr residence in Auvers-Sur-Oise in (?south) Paris for information regarding this report, adds that one of Rajavi's associates (?stated) that the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization leader is not willing to comment on his recent visits to Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

It should be noted that Jalaaleddin Farsi, one of the main elements of Khomeyni's Islamic Republic, had revealed that Mas'ud Rajavi and Abolhasan Bani-Sadr paid secret visits to Saudi Arabia where they held talks with Saudi officials. According to Jalaaleddin Farsi, Mas'ud Rajavi also visited Baghdad and reached agreements with officials of the Iraqi Ba'th Party. According to the fundamentalist member of the Islamic Republic Party, the Iraqis have asked Mas'ud Rajavi for the continuation of assassinations by members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization of personalities of Khomeyni's regime and Mas'ud Rajavi has agreed to this request. Jalaaleddin Farsi blamed members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization for the explosion at the Syrian Embassy in Tehran and said: These persons committed this act on orders of Iraqi officials.

Commenting on this the Voice of Iran political correspondent says: Although there is no precise information on Mas'ud Rajavi's visit to Baghdad, the reality that the Iraqi regime supports the Mojahedin-e Khalq and furnishes their financial needs cannot be ignored.

CSO: 4640/307

EGYPTIAN SUPPORT FOR IRAQ CONDEMNED

LD220012 Tehran IRNA in English 2008 GMT 21 May 82

[IRNA commentary on Egypt's "redemption"--IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, 21 May (IRNA)--The Egypt regime committed clear treason against the Islamic world when in 1979 it signed the Camp David pact. Al-Sadat's regime, according to the Camp David accord, was committed to expand political, economic and military relations with the Zionist regime leading to open borders for tourism in 5 years' time. The Zionists aim for sovereignty and influence from the Euphrates to the Nile, a strategy in the process of fulfillment with the continuation of the Camp David accord. Al-Sadat's regime not only kept silent, concerning the aggressive policies of the Zionist regime and the massacre of defenseless people of Southern Lebanon but praised these as measures to root out international terrorism. This regime not only did not attempt to help win the rights of Palestinians but approved Jewish settlements in the Arab residing areas and their expulsion of the natives.

The Camp David accord changed Egypt into a strong military base of U.S. imperialism in the region and even participated in the military operations of the U.S. thwarted in Tabas.

Husni Mubarak pre-selected by the U.S. to replace al-Sadat in future, came to power with support of imperialism and Zionism after the revolutionary execution of al-Sadat. Husni Mubarak, who did not consider nationalist and reactionaries a danger, released them and concentrated his effort arresting youth supporting the Islamic Republic of Iran. The United States, in order to strengthen Husni Mubarak, held the Bright Star maneuvers stationing thousands of its airborne troops along with military equipment in Egypt. The maneuver extended from the Mediterranean Sea and Red Sea, to the Oman Sea and mouth of the Persian Gulf. Oman also participated in the maneuver and under this pretext thousands of Egyptian soldiers were stationed there to suppress any uprising by Oman's people. Husni Mubarak announced that any Arab countries which needed military aid would receive Egyptian aid.

The imperialist mass media have come to the aid of Husni Mubarak who always suffered from his isolation in the Arab world, and with the help and approval of various Arab regimes he set out to suppress the Islamic movement of

Egypt. With the formation of replacement forces in Sinai in April the wish of the United States and West concerning establishing NATO bases in the strategic point which links the Asian and African continents and also is the point where the Mediterranean Sea joins the Red Sea, was realised. The aligned mass media in the Arab world once again went to help Mubarak calling him a champion of peace who, by using peaceful means was able to recover Egyptian lands. Shortly afterwards King Hassan of Morocco announced that he would establish political relations with Egypt and Saudi Arabia and also announced the reopening of its embassy in Cairo.

Egypt, by granting military aid to other Arab countries and increasing its presence in these countries officially aligned itself with the reactionary Arab countries and to implement the policy Egypt had announced that it was ready to grant military aid to any Arab countries needing such aid.

The remarkable aid of Egypt to Iraq should be noted. Egypt by committing such an action which took place on the hint of the common master of Egypt and Iraq, on one hand was confronting with Islamic Republic of Iran and on the other hand by granting aid to Iraq has placed itself beside Iraq and other reactionary countries including Oman, Jordan, Morocco and Saudi Arabia. By carrying out this policy Egypt intends to find a way for the nonaligned summit conference still due to be held in Baghdad and saved itself from isolation. If once Egypt dispatched only light and semi-heavy weapons or munitions, now it dispatches plane squadrons, military and political missions to meet Iraqi needs.

Recently the aid of Egypt to Iraq has reached a point that Mubarak has threatened that if Iranian forces enter Iraqi territory, the military forces of Egypt would not remain indifferent. This issue was pointed out in a joint communique released at the end of the visit of Sultan Qabus to Egypt who went to Egypt to harmonise aid to the Iraqi regime.

In conclusion it should be noted that apparently from the viewpoint of the regime of Husni Mubarak the bombing of Lebanese Muslims and the homelessness of the Palestinians have nothing to do with Arabs but the victories of Iran and the reverses of Saddam's aggression have severely endangered international peace and the Arab nation.

CSO: 4600/482

CLANDESTINE RADIO CITES EMIGRE PAPER ON RIFT IN LEADERSHIP

GF231010 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 23 May 82

[Excerpts] The correspondent of PAYAM-E IRAN, which is published in the United States, referring to the current situation in a detailed report from Tehran, has written the following: What (?is occurring in Iran) on the surface indicates that the mullahs intend to establish their foothold. However, those who have access to the circles of the rulers of today's Iran believe that there is a deep rift among the mullahs. Hashemi-Rafsanjani makes a pretence of playing the same tune as Khamene'i. However, being a power-hungry mullah who has always dreamed of the presidency, he has no deep desire for cooperation with Khamene'i. The present problems and a fear for a sudden explosion in the country have caused their superficial unity.

Another group of mullahs who are powerful in the provinces are suffering from the general unhappiness of the people. Irrespective of all the power that the mullahs wield in Iran, not a single mullah dares to go out in public. All the statesmen [words indistinct] usually spend the night in their offices out of fear of assassination.

PAYAM-E IRAN adds: These individuals are even afraid of their own trusted guards who protect them at all times. The president's, majlis speaker's and prime minister's offices are surrounded by two walls and the guards are posted in the area between the old and new walls. This lack of trust and [words indistinct] has separated them from one another. Everyone distances himself from others. Lips are shut and no one talks unless it is necessary. Arabic words have heavily corrupted the daily life and speech. When talking to supporters of the regime or reading their documents, it is often not easy to understand the meaning. The war of attrition between Iran and Iraq has tired the nation. The regime talks about victories and the destruction of the enemy. It is not clear how many thousands of kilometers [words indistinct] that after all such victories the radio of mullahs continues to report further victories and the crushing of the enemy. Yet the enemy is still prepared for other days on fronts within Iran. According to information, this war costs \$250 million a month and this amount must be shouldered by the oppressed Iranian nation.

The events in Kordestan have also revealed the hand of the regime to the people. Last summer following a particularly heavy clash between the guards and the Kurds, it was announced that Kordestan had been cleansed of filth of the Kurds. Yet, the regime's radio and newspapers announced recently that some Kurdish areas were liberated following heavy attacks by guards against such regions. Other reports show that bloody battles continue in Kurdish regions and this shows that the Kurds are in control of a large number of sensitive areas in the region. Shortage of foodstuff and long lines continue to waste the life of the nation.

CSO: 4640/307

'JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI' REPORTS HYPOCRITES' SENTENCES

GF231306 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 16 May 82 p 5

[Text] Semnan--The Islamic revolutionary court of Semnan has sentenced 20 supporters of the hypocrites minigroup to prison terms ranging from 6 months to 15 years. The public relations office of the Semnan Islamic court has announced the details of the verdicts issued regarding these 20 persons, all of whom were charged with active participation in the various political and military phases of the group's operations. The names and prison terms are as follows:

1. Hoseyn Mohammadi, son of Mohammad Baqer: 12 years.
2. Seyyed Mohammad Amir Khalili, son of Hasan: 15 years.
3. Bahman 'Arabi, son of Sher 'Ali: 1 year confirmed imprisonment and 1 and 1/2 years suspended sentence.
4. Morteza Kaseban, son of Sher Aqa: 2 years confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.
5. Motahhereh Najafi, daughter of Kazem: 1 and 1/2 years confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.
6. Mohammad Ebrahim Sanian, son of Hoseyn: 1 year confirmed imprisonment and 1 and 1/2 years suspended sentence.
7. Kiumars Zolfaqarian, son of Hoseyn: 1 and 1/2 years confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.
8. Mansur Molla'iyani, son of Esma'il: 1 and 1/2 years confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.
9. 'Abbas 'Ali Safa'i, son of Hasan: 1 year confirmed imprisonment and 1 year suspended imprisonment.
10. Zabiollah Maddah, son of Ahmad: 27 months confirmed imprisonment and 3 years suspended sentence.
11. Reza Dana'ifard, son of Mohammad 'Ali: 1 year confirmed imprisonment and 1 year suspended sentence.
12. Nureddin Amravani, son of Aqa Baba: 1 and 1/2 years confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.
13. Ahmad Sanian, son of Hoseyn: 1 year confirmed imprisonment and 1 year suspended sentence.
14. 'Ali Golheydarian, son of 'Ali: 1 year confirmed imprisonment and 1 year suspended sentence.
15. Sa'id Zakeri, son of Ne'matollah: 1 year confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.

16. Hoseyn Nejati, son of Mozaffar: 1 and 1/2 years confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.
17. Naser Sadaqati, son of 'Ali Ashghar: 1 and 1/2 years confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.
18. 'Ali Reza Safa'i, son of Hoseyn: 6 months confirmed imprisonment and 1 year suspended sentence.
19. Safa 'Ali Safa'i, son of Asghar Aqa: 1 and 1/2 years confirmed imprisonment and 2 years suspended sentence.
20. Majid Zakeri, son of Ne'matollah was awarded a sentence of confirmed imprisonment of 1 year and a suspended sentence of 2 years as he gave himself up before arrest.

CSO: 4640/307

CLANDESTINE RADIO ON MONTAZERI MESSAGE TO HEZBOLLAHI STUDENTS

GF221817 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
22 May 82

[Text] Shaykh Montazeri sent a message to the so-called Islamic Students Association in the United States and Canada again today. Our commentator has sent a brief (?report) and writes:

As far as we know, the Hezbollahis in those countries do not number more than 13. [Words indistinct] that Sheykh Montazeri should send a message to the members of this association and the disgraceful voice of the Islamic Republic should report on the same with such fervor, as if millions of such turbaned and bearded individuals are eagerly awaiting in the United States and Canada the message of the future hope of the oppressed of the world (?to reach their ears) so they can obey the exhortations of the imam's deputy.

That the Tehran regime has opened up terrorist cells in various parts of the world under the euphemistic name "Islamic associations" in the embassies of the regime is indisputable. The Mainz incident in the FRG that collectively (?disposed of) the followers of the line and the bomb explosion in the shah mosque in Tehran are but reaction against the so-called Islamic associations. The dispatch of about 200 Hezbollahis to Paris, which was reported by the clandestine transmitters of Radio Iran and the Voice of Iran [words indistinct]. But in Canada, where respected Iranians live, and in the United States, which is the (?fountainhead) of opposition to Khomeyni, the Islamic Association--this terrorist department of Khomeyni's regime--which [words indistinct] only has the status of a scarecrow among the students and Iranians outside the (?campus) of the universities does not (?intimidate) anyone.

Despite this, the antinational regime of the mullahs sporadically sends messages to these scarecrows of the cherry orchards and does not think about whether the regime's publicity is effective and durable or not. Had the propagandists of the [word indistinct] of Tehran sent messages for the terrorists of the so-called Islamic associations of Germany and France, would it not have had greater (?benefits)? They could have at least convened a conference regarding our recommendation and they could have sent us a report of the same.

We believe that the greater or lesser success of world terrorism in accordance with the revolutionary policy of Ayatollah Khomeyni, the great leader [word indistinct] of the revolution, would be guaranteed by him with the appropriate publicity [words indistinct].

CSO: 4640/307

IRAN

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS ON WORKERS UNREST

GF240923 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
23 May 82

[Excerpt] With the widening waves of discontent among the workers of industrial units and government employees, the antinationalist regime of mullahs has increased its brutality and has arrested a few hundred workers and employees. The discontent of these groups which was broadcast 8 days ago by the Free Voice of Iran manifested itself as waves of strikes in [name indistinct] factory, Pars Electronics, Volvo and five other industries and at the telecommunication center on Takht-e Jamshid Street, Tehran, and gradually spread to other, bigger industries and to most of the administrative and telecommunications technical units especially the post, telegraph and telephone center in Sepah Square.

According to London's Government radio, the workers' strikes were broken up with armed attacks by guards at the factories. Similarly, the correspondent of Free Voice of Iran reported that following the attack of the guards, about 300 of the strikers were arrested and transferred to Evin prison. A number of the workers have been jailed at the prosecutor's office in the regime's Labor Ministry. The Free Voice of Iran correspondent, confirming the news of the regimes abolishment of Thursday as a day off and their increase of the workers' working hours, and citing well informed sources, added that it has been predicted in Tehran that the continuation of arrests of industry and government strikers representatives would result in further strikes during the coming days.

According to our correspondent, the agents appointed to suppress, beat and injure the workers are from the workers information department of the second district's guards, the workers society and members of the so-called Islamic society.

Following the amred break up of the workers' and government employees' strike by the agents of Khomeyni's regime, Mas'ud Rajavi, the leader of Iranian Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, asked the International Labor Organization to investigate this issue and the suppression of workers' strikes in Iran.

Our commentator writes: An international labor law is (?respected) in the world, while the [word indistinct] dictatorship and medieval regime do not

respect it. Even the Latin American dictators do not break up strikes so openly or use their armies. The violation of the international labor law in Iran is very clear, the strikes of workers in industries and the telecommunication workers' strike has been recorded on the wireless of the telecommunications office.

During the past 3 years of Khomeyni's regime about 5 million workers have become unemployed. At a time when the income of the workers has decreased, the cost of living has had an incredible increase. The mullahs' regime does not even have the courage to refute these facts.

The names of 45 arrested workers, including three officials of General Motors, have been handed over to the International Labor Organization as an example and proof.

CSO: 4640/307

BRIEFS

NEW TUDEH OFFSHOOT--According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent, a group of Iranian communists outside the country has (?decided) to end the dishonest activities of the Tudeh Party of Iran, which implements the ideas of the Eastern imperialists of (?Moscow) in Iran and since the advent of Khomeyni has (?supported) the mullahs' regime. According to the Free Voice of Iran reporter, this group is engaged in establishing a new branch of the Tudeh Party outside Iran. To this will be added another group that opposes the regime and the Tudeh Party's affiliation with Moscow. A number of former Tudeh members including the famous [name indistinct] has taken over the task of setting up this branch of the Tudeh. [Text] [GF211800 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 May 82]

HEZBOLLAHIS VISIT MONTAZERI--A group of Hezbollahis who normally visit Ruhollah Khomeyni at Jamaran paid their respects to his successor-to-be, Sheykh Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, in Qom today instead of paying their respects to their imam. During the meeting the eminent juriconsult of the Islamic Republic said: We should pay more attention to agriculture. Montazeri added: It has been heard that some people are saying that Iran should be industrialized, but the facts contradict this view. The superpowers will not entrust (?major) industries to us. Therefore, we should give up such ideas and concentrate on agriculture. Today's visit to Montazeri by the Hezbollahis will encourage this idiotic mullah to assume the status of the 14th imam and to practice posing as the same in the Islamic regime for future purposes. [Text] [GF211652 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 21 May 82]

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ARRESTS--A network of the Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq [words indistinct] has been discovered in Khuzestan and 14 of its members have been arrested. According to the claims of Khomeyni's Revolution Guards, some communal houses were also discovered during the course of operations conducted to arrest the members of this network. The houses were occupied by the guards. [Text] [GF211620 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 21 May 82]

CLASHES IN TEHRAN--According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Tehran, at least 31 guards were killed or injured during clashes that took place 17-19 May in Tehran between armed combatants and the forces of the antinational regime. The report adds: during the course of the 3-day skirmishes, some of the commanders of guard units were killed. The armed

struggle by the resistance forces against the mullahs' regime took place in the central avenues of Tehran and in Khorasan Square in the southeast of the capital. The heavily censored Tehran media did not disseminate any report on the incidents. [Text] [GF211710 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 May 82]

ARREST OF RAJAVI'S MOTHER-IN-LAW--The Free Voice of Iran correspondent reports that Mrs Rabi'i, the 70-year-old mother of Ashraf [name indistinct] (?Reza'i), the murdered wife of Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Mas'ud Rajavi, has been arrested. Q-oting a spokesman of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization of Iran, our correspondent interpreted the arrest of Mrs Rabi'i and the parents of a group of Mojahedin-e Khalq members as a sign of the acts of repression of Khomeyni's regime and the (?renewal) of suffocation in Iran. He said: These persons have no connection with the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization. Ashraf Rabi'i's antiregime activity was conducted away from the (?eyes) of her family. According to the same report, Haj Amir Zabeti, father of Mohammad Zabeti, is still in prison. [Text] [GF211728 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 May 82]

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES CHIEF OF STAFF--The Central News Unit reports that Brig Gen Qasem'ali Zahirmezhad, chief of staff of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran was received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of Islamic Republic of Iran. During this meeting the chief of staff presented the commander in chief with a report on the latest developments on the battlefronts. [Text] [LD221126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 82]

DATE OF QOTBZADEH'S TRIAL--The date of the trial of Qotbzadeh and all others who have been arrested for the crime of plotting against the Islamic Republic of Khomeyni will be determined on Sunday. According to our correspondent, Mullahs Mohammadi-Gilani, the chief prosecutor of Khomeyni's revolution courts, and Asadollah Lajvarid, the central revolution prosecutor of Khomeyni, will answer correspondent's questions on judicial matters of the regime in a press conference in Evin prison on Sunday. Our correspondent adds that the government officials have not given any explanations concerning the main topics of discussion in this conference, but informed sources are certain that Mullahs Mohammadi-Gilani and Asadollah Lajvardi will furnish information to the correspondents concerning the date of Qotbzadeh's trial and also the fate of Ayatollah Kazem Shari'Atmadari. We must remind you that Mullah Musavi-Tabrizi recently stated that Qotbzadeh's trial will start next month and [words indistinct]. [Text] [GF230940 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 23 May 82]

TRANSFER OF FUNDS ABROAD--According to our correspondent, a group of regime officials stopped three buses which were trying to cross the border and leave Iran carrying a considerable amount of gold and foreign currency. However, they were forced to let them leave following explanations by the buses' drivers. Our correspondent adds that the drivers informed the officials of the regime that they were transporting the gold and currency on the orders of several high-ranking officials of the leadership for delivery

to their agents in Europe. Informed sources have stated that Mullah Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Mullah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri and Sheykh Ahmad Khomeyni, Khomeyni's son, have participated in this deal. Investigation continues by the faction opposing this one. [Text] [GF230931 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 23 May 82]

EMBEZZLEMENT OF REFUGEE FUNDS--According to reports reaching us, embezzlement is going on in the foundation for war refugees. A group of mullahs and guards who have the foundation's official documents and stamp in their possession have sold on the black market the goods donated by people to their war refugee compatriots and the food and goods allocation of these refugees. The centers of this embezzlement have been reported to be in Shiraz, Kerman and Yazd. [Text] [GF241550 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 24 May 82]

U.S. EMBASSY SERVES AS JAIL--According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent, due to an increase in the number of prisoners and a shortage of space for them, the former U.S. Embassy building on Tehran's Takht-e Jamshid Street has been transformed into a prison. According to this report, the inhuman mullahs, who have filled their jails with the best sons of the Iranian nation, recently transformed the former U.S. Embassy building into a jail in which they torture their opponents. Our correspondent adds that due to this, the number of guards at the embassy has been increased lately. In Tehran they say that a number of arrested persons are jailed in a number of mosques, sports centers, confiscated houses and government warehouses. [Text] [GF250605 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 24 May 82]

GULF COUNTRIES MAY END IRAQ AID--Please, pay attention to the report of the Voice of Iran correspondent which was received a while ago from Dubayy. It says that in official circles there is talk that the Arab countries in the Persian Gulf region, especially Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Qatar may cut off their financial aid to Iraq. Our correspondent adds that following the defeat of Iraqi soldiers by the patriotic Iranian Army and the liberation of Khoramshahr Port, the Arab countries in the Persian Gulf region do not feel the need to continue sending financial aid to the government of Baghdad. It is possible that a decision on this will be adopted finally at the Sunday conference of the ministers of foreign affairs of six member states of Gulf Cooperation Council, which will be held in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. It is necessary to recall that in the past 20 months, the Gulf region countries, especially Kuwait, have paid the equivalent of \$25 billion to the Baghdad regime to cover part of expenses of continuing the war against Khomeyni's regime. [Text] [GF261330 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 26 May 82]

KHOMAYNI INSENSITIVE ABOUT DECEASED SOLDIERS--According to the Voice of Iran correspondent, the Iranian people are criticizing Khomeyni's praise of his Revolution Guards for the liberation of Khorramshahr. The Iranians believe that this was a good occasion for Khomeyni to issue both greetings and condolences he usually does, because thousands of our young men have been killed in the battles. The (?true) Iranians note that every time a clergyman without a country or a [word indistinct] mercenary reaps the

harvest of his sins and (?dies) Khomeyni conveys his greetings and condolences to the affected family. However, this time, the excited and insensitive Khomeyni was content with conveying greetings only. [Text] [GF261254 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 26 May 82]

REGIME MAY DISMISS ARMY COMMANDERS--According to the Voice of Iran correspondent, the Khomeyni regime is likely to dismiss or retire a number of commanders in the Iranian Army in the next few days. Our correspondent, quoting informed sources, says that the matter was discussed at the recent session of the Supreme Defense Council of the regime and aims at preventing the Iranian militarymen from staging a possible coup d'etat in Iran to do away with the Khomeyni regime. A rumor is rife among informed circles in Iran that following the victory by the armed forces of Iran in liberating Khorramshahr, prominent persons in the regime fear that the nationalist militarymen and those opposed to the Islamic regime may turn their (?attention) toward bringing down the regime. Accordingly, it is calculated that a considerable number of commanders and other personnel of the Iranian Army may be dismissed, on one pretext or another, in the near future. [Text] [GF261218 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 26 May 82]

AGRICULTURAL LOAN STATISTICS--The Agricultural Bank of Khuzestan Province announced statistics for its loans for its branch in the Izeh township for Farvardin [month beginning 21 March] as follows: During the aforementioned month, the amount of 15,510,000 rials was allocated as loans to 220 farmers for agricultural development purposes. This includes the amount of 10,000,000 rials for planned projects. Ninety-three farmers in six villages benefited from this loan. In addition, the amount of 5,206,000 rials was allocated for the current agricultural activities, 9,330,000 rials were allocated for cattle raising projects and 905,000 rials were allocated for the purchase of agricultural equipment. The bank further indicated that during the abovementioned month the amount of 991,000 rials of bank dues were reimbursed to the bank. These figures show a growth of 124 percent over the last year for the same month. [Text] [GF191800 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 19 May 82]

HOVEYZEH DISTRICT GOVERNOR APPOINTED--In a decree issued by the Khozestan Governorate general's office, Mr (To'ma Saki) was appointed as Hoveyzeh's district governor. [GF231101 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 22 May 82]

PRIME MINISTER MEETS PILOTS--Bushehr, 21 May (IRNA)--Prime Minister Musavi Thursday praised the Iranian Air Force pilots as patriots who had committed great feats witnessed by the entire world with awe and reverence. The prime minister, who was talking to a group of pilots of the sixth fighter base in the Persian Gulf port of Bushehr, said that subsequent to Iran's victories in the Bayt al-Moqaddas operation, the world media had markedly changed their previous stands. He said the spirit of devotion and self-abnegation which was manifest in the Iranian pilots as well as in all people engaged with other tasks in other institutions throughout the country would have a bearing upon the Islamic culture of 1 billion Muslims throughout the world. The prime minister also reminded that much as Iraq had shouted "anti-American slogans" in apparent leftist enthusiasm in the past, it was now showing its true identity in a united camp along with Jordan, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. [Text] [LD212320 Tehran IRNA in English 1920 GMT 21 May 82]

NORMALITY RETURNING TO KHORRAMSHAHR--Tehran, 27 May (IRNA)--Following the liberation of Khorramshahr on 24 May and the reopening of three new gendarmerie outposts, about 10 outposts presently resumed guarding the international borders in Khorramshahr. Simultaneously with the liberation of the Persian Gulf port of Khojamshahr, the police department of the city started its work and on the morrow, the water and power department of the city also resumed work. The latest reports indicate that the Red Crescent Society branch of the Islamic Republic of Iran reopened in Khorramshahr and the agricultural office of the city announced its readiness to open.
[Text] [LD271722 Teh-an IRNA in English 1616 GMT 27 May 82]

CSO: 4600/482

KUWAIT

U.S. SEEN BEHIND ZAIRE'S DECISION ON ISRAEL TIES

GF250520 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 23 May 82 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "From Zaire to the Falklands"]

[Text] In an editorial on Zaire's resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel, the Netherlands newspaper DE VOLKSKRANT says that the Zaire decision was not only based on Israeli guarantees to compensate it for the loss of Arab aid but also on U.S. guarantees.

It is clear that the Netherlands paper has said the plain truth. Washington, which seeks to trap Arab countries and make them recognize Israel, and encourage other Arabs to follow suit, is bound to acting with greater zeal to break through the African barrier through ardent stooges such as General Mobutu. By making Mobutu take this step, Washington wants the Arabs to believe that what they took for African solidarity is not a constant fact, and that Washington can penetrate it wherever it chooses. In other words, Washington wants to say to the Arabs that they are exposed and naked. If the Arabs themselves cannot stop such penetration, how can they expect the surrounding countries to resist?

In any case, Washington has invented a real war, the Falklands war, so that it can say to the Arabs impatiently: Get off my back. I have no time for you. There is a war going on between two Atlantic powers. What is important now is for the cease-fire in southern Lebanon to be consolidated and include all the other fronts. Otherwise, Israel is free to act--as though this is not already the case. Therefore, what you have to do is to hold back the Palestinian gun and tame it. Then there will be total silence. Thus Israel can swallow up all the territories it occupied in the June war.

Perhaps the Zairian signal is meant to point to the political collapse that is taking place around us, accompanied by the idle military situation.

Thus, amid the heat of the Falklands war, it can say: These are the crumbs that are left to you of Palestine. Of course, the Arab situation at present, and until the foreseeable future, can be seen only as taking a turn for the worse. Therefore, the most you can do is to preoccupy yourselves with the Zairian general's game and make an issue out of it. As long as there is no real action then Washington provides us with this golden opportunity to defend our usurped rights.

Washington certainly has many tricks up its sleeve, releasing them one after the other to fill the time, while the real bloodshed is taking place in the Gulf war on the one hand, and the liquidation of the cause is reaching its height in Palestine and its adjacent front, on the other. And if you are smart you can move between the jaws of the pincer. Is not Washington watching and happy that we are so divided and are vying with each other to win its approval, adopt its policy and defend its ugly face?

As long as we are like this we shall see many generals of Mobutu's kind extend to us the sweetest American greetings.

CSO: 4400/281

DAILY CONDEMNS REAGAN'S INCONSISTENT POLICY

GF231745 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 22 May 82 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "The Rule of Law and the Rule of Force"]

[Excerpts] In his latest speech a few days ago, U.S. President Ronald Reagan denounced what he called Argentina's domination of the Falkland Islands by force because, to quote him, "This is impermissible in a world where the rule of law must dominate, and not the rule of force." Because Washington, in its president's words, is against the "rule of force," it abandoned its Latin American relative and ally, Argentina, and sided with its old ally, Britain.

What is strange is that the U.S. president in the same speech announced that he would not allow Israel to lose its qualitative and quantitative supremacy over all the Arabs put together.

It is certain that the U.S. president, who is known for his wisdom and knowledge, forgot what he said a while ago about the rule of law and the rule of force and that Washington would not allow force to outrule law. It seems, therefore, that he did not notice any discrepancy in the logic of his speech on two similar issues with a slight difference. He remembered this moral and historical rule when U.S. policy decided to side with the Anglo-Saxon partner occupying these islands, but was oblivious to all moral rules when he talked about Israel. Israel, according to the United States, is law unto itself; it did not expel the Palestinian people from their land or establish another state on it; it is not occupying the land of Arab countries.

This means simply that the U.S. words are for local consumption, as they say. They are even a sort of disgraceful blackmail because they prove that U.S. stands are not only a farse but a mockery of the Arab mind. In this regard, we say that the U.S. condemnation of the Israeli raid on Iraq's nuclear reactor and the slow delivery of the warplanes and consequently what was announced on the postponement of implementing the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation following the annexation of the Golan were a farse and an acrobatic stand to placate Arab frenzy.

In fact, it is futile to discuss the logic of U.S. policy. Nevertheless, we, who are supervictims of this superimperialist policy, cannot remain silent over it. It is an irreparably stupid policy. It is an irrecoverably blind, unbearably unjust and unimaginably aggressive policy.

The situation would probably be bearable if Washington practiced this policy without citing logic, law or force. This means being clear and open without claiming to be a friend of the Arabs or claiming to defend them.

Similarly, one could bear this situation if he could imagine one just and civilized U.S. stand in one part of the world. We used to say, for example, that the fault was ours and that we seemed to deserve this continuous U.S. punishment if the United States treated others justly. But Washington has never been logical with anyone in the world.

That is why the wonderful Vietnamese people were avenging the entire world when they humiliated this arch-Satan. Perhaps Argentina will be able to raise hell in the continent against the United States, which preached its love for "law" and sided with Britain to deal the last blow to the remnants of that senile empire.

In our distressing weakness, we have turned into spectators in the theaters of men gleaning some of their manhood and dreaming of exchanging roles.

CSO: 4400/281

KUWAIT

PAPER FAVORS RESTORATION OF IRAQ-EGYPT RELATIONS

LD221358 Kuwait KUNA in English 1125 GMT 22 May 82

[Report from the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, 22 May (KUNA)--AL-SIYASAH on the resumption of diplomatic relations between Cairo and Baghdad:

"There is nothing to prevent the immediate resumption of diplomatic ties between Cairo and Baghdad, for all conditions and circumstances are ripe.

"The formal resumption of diplomatic ties by itself is not important. What is important is: What would be the results of a resumption of Iraq-Egypt ties?

"The answer is that many forces would balance out positively, both in the Iraq-Iran war and in the isolation of those undisciplined Arab elements whose influence has been increasing and growing only by the exploitation of Arab differences. The resumption of ties between Iraq and Egypt means healing the rift between important Arab capitals.

"It is possible, after the Iraqi step, that North African Arab countries will follow suit. They may be followed by some important oil producing countries.

"This will result in the forming of a strong Arab alliance capable of ending Arab differences, including a decision on the stance over the Iraq-Iran war, i.e. deciding whether it is an Arab-Iranian or only an Iraq-Iran war.

"The resumption of Iraq-Egypt ties will change many things, including those of friction within the Arab world.

"This may lead to an international Arab move by a unified Arab team. So the international bodies will face a united and strong Arab pressure. Perhaps this will result in solving many problems in the Middle East, including an end to those external activities aimed at creating tension in the region to waste Arab oil money in inter-Arab wars.

"The next few days may bring many surprises if Iraq is convinced that restoration of ties with Egypt will have the effect we have mentioned."

CSO: 4400/281

KUWAITI BATTLES OVER LONRHO DEAL

Gulf Fisheries Involvement

Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 18, 3 May 82 pp 10-11

[Text] Lonrho, the London-based international trading group, appears to be engaged in a no-holds-barred struggle with Gulf Fisheries, an investment company controlled by members of the Kuwaiti royal family, reports a 15 per cent share in Lonrho, the largest after the holding of the group's controversial chief executive Roland (Tiny) Rowland.

There are two major issues at stake between Gulf Fisheries and Lonrho and some observers view them as closely related fronts in the same battle. One issue is whether or not Lonrho will be able to increase its borrowing by L500 million sterling (\$900 million)--a 50 per cent increase--to L1,464 million (\$2.63 billion). Gulf is opposed to the move and took successful legal action last week to obtain a list of Lonrho's shareholders so that it could send them a circular spelling out its opposition to the plans to increase Lonrho's borrowing limits. As this newsletter went to press Lonrho shareholders were to vote on the issue in an extraordinary meeting. The proposed increase in borrowings needed a 75 per cent majority, which Lonrho said would be difficult to achieve. Gulf's London representative was active last week in contracting Lonrho's institutional shareholders to make the case against the increased limits. Gulf is known to be dissatisfied with the performance of its Lonrho shares.

The second issue is that of Mr Rowland's plans to do business with Israel. Mr Rowland was in Israel last week where he discussed possible ventures in electronics, oil exploration, and aviation with the Israeli government and a possible contract to market and distribute agricultural machinery in Africa with Koor, Israel's largest company. Lonrho has had no trading activity with Israel in the past, traditionally associating itself with Arab and African countries. Representatives of Gulf take the view that Lonrho's decision to talk business with Israel at a time when Kuwaiti shareholders are opposing Mr Rowland's efforts to raise the borrowing limits is no coincidence. If Lonrho were to be placed on the Arab boycott list, Gulf would be under great pressure to sell its shares. Gulf

is presently considering legal advice to see if a case can be made against Lonrho directors for deliberately trying to get the company on the boycott list through trading with Israel.

However, in an interview last week with the Israeli daily *Haaretz*, Mr Rowland predicted that joint ventures undertaken by Lonrho with the Israeli government will neither result in the company being placed on the boycott list nor in Gulf Fisheries selling its shares. The Kuwaiti owners of Gulf, Mr Rowland indicated, are just as interested in making a profit as anyone else. He was also quoted as saying that now that Israel has completed its withdrawal from the Sinai there is no reason for the boycott to continue.

There seems little basis for Mr Rowland's view that no boycott of Lonrho would result from trading with Israel. Koor, in addition to dealing in agricultural equipment, is heavily involved in the development of military equipment, and Mr Rowland also had talks with top executives from Israeli Aircraft Industries IAI — the country's largest manufacturer of military equipment. It is unlikely that Gulf Fisheries, which is controlled by Sheikh Nasser al-Sabah, son of the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister, would or could turn a blind eye to Lonrho involvement in such strategic areas as energy or armaments.

Gulf Fisheries Wins in Vote

Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 19, 10 May 82 p 8

[Text] Kuwaiti-owned Gulf Fisheries, one of the largest shareholders in the international trading conglomerate Lonrho, won a battle with Lonrho directors when a number of other shareholders voted last week to support Gulf-led opposition to a move to increase the trading group's borrowing powers by 50 per cent (*An-Nahar Arab Report & MEMO*, May 3). The attempt to increase borrowing limits needed a 75 per cent majority in the vote, but received 71 per cent, and the resolution was shelved.

Gulf representatives expressed their satisfaction with the outcome, noting that this is the first time that Lonrho's chief executive Roland (Tiny) Rowland has been forced by shareholders to give up any planned action. As a result Gulf is likely to be in a position to open further channels of communication with other Lonrho shareholders concerning other possible issues that may come up.

It remains to be seen however, how Gulf Fisheries might respond to Lonrho's possible entry into joint ventures with the Israeli government or Israeli companies. Mr Rowland was recently in Israel where he held talks with leading government officials and executives concerning a variety of possible projects. Should any of these materialise, Gulf's stake in Lonrho could become untenable. Gulf has accused Lonrho of trying to force it to sell its shares by mooted the possibility of opening trade relations with Israel, but Lonrho has denied this.

Billion Dollar Deficit Projected in Budget

Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 18, 3 May 82 p 3

[Text] Declining oil revenues have forced the Kuwaiti government to propose a deficit of KD 312.6 million (about \$1 billion) in the 1982-83 budget compared to a surplus of over \$6 billion in the previous year's budget. This is the first time the Kuwaiti budget has gone into the red since

the 1973 oil embargo prompted a short-lived fall in oil revenues. The deficit will be covered by drawing on the Gulf state's financial reserves, the official Kuwaiti news agency said.

Announcing the budget, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Abdel Aziz Hussein, said projected expenditure amounted to \$12.3 billion, a 5 per cent rise over last year's figure. The budget estimates that revenues in the coming fiscal year will total about \$11.2 billion, compared to \$18.5 billion in 1981-82. The oil sector will account for 92.5 per cent of this sum, according to Mr Hussein, compared to 96.5 per cent in the previous year. The figure for revenues does not include the income from Kuwait's substantial foreign investments, which amounted to \$6.1 billion in 1980-81.

Gulf analysts quoted by *Reuters* said that Kuwait was now producing under 600,000 b/d of crude oil, well below its OPEC-assigned quota of 1.25 million b/d, and was selling it at \$32.30 a barrel.

The looming budget deficit was cited by Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa al-Sabah as the main reason behind recent rises in domestic prices for petroleum products. The price of gasoline sold at the pump went up by about 100 per cent, from \$0.39 a gallon to \$0.78 for high grade and from \$0.24 a gallon to \$0.63 for low grade. Diesel fuel prices jumped over 600 per cent from \$0.10 a gallon to \$0.63. The government's measures followed warnings by oil experts that domestic oil consumption could account for nearly half the oil output of Gulf exporters by the year 2000 unless steps were taken to slow its growth.

Mounting concern about the country's financial prospects was reflected in a recent speech by Finance Minister Abdel Latif al-Hamad, who forecast bankruptcy in four years if government expenditure continued to rise at current rates. He said that government spending had climbed by 23 per cent in the period from 1974 to 1979. If the trend persisted, expenditure could top KD 60 billion (\$210 billion) a year by 1986, the minister said. To meet this, Kuwait would have to sell about 2.5 million b/d of oil at \$40 a barrel, Mr Hamad calculated.

There are signs that the Kuwaiti government is re-thinking its development strategy in the light of the financial squeeze it is experiencing. "It is better to have the projects already on hand completed than to embark on any new ambitious plans," Mr Hamad remarked. He also indicated that Kuwait was exploring possible alternatives to oil as sources of income, such as the introduction of taxes and excise duties and revised tariffs for postal and electricity services.

The contents of the budget, which has been approved by the cabinet and must now be passed by the Kuwaiti parliament, were not disclosed in detail. However, Mr Hussein stated that KD 320.6 million (\$1.1 billion), or 10 per cent of revenue, had been allocated to the Future Generation Reserve Fund, while KD 603 million (\$2.1 billion) went to development projects. Defence spending, believed to have risen in recent years, was not revealed.

CSO: 4400/282

FINANCE MINISTER ON DROPPING OIL REVENUES

GF231515 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 22 May 82 p 8

[Interview granted by Kuwaiti Finance and Planning Minister 'Abd al-Latif Yusuf al-Hamad to AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM correspondent Muhammad al-Burjus--no place or date given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Kuwaiti revenues have dropped. Will this affect vital projects in Kuwait?

[Answer] I do not think the expected drop in this year's revenues will directly affect Kuwait's local and international commitments. What is required at this stage is to have a forecast for the coming years and not for only 1 fiscal year because the budget is like an inverted pyramid: The higher you go, the thicker it becomes. Therefore, you must try to control the situation in order to prevent this inverted pyramid, which is based on a strong budget, from being reversed and to maintain its balance. If we try to reflect this budget graphically, it will produce this picture. That is why we must exercise caution in what we do this year and must avoid having these decisions affect the coming years.

[Question] What do you mean by caution?

[Answer] I mean we have to make sure our calculations are serious and realistic. There are many aspects of the government's budget in which there may be more checks to ensure better results than current expenditures provide. Consequently, there is no worry about the drop of revenues. There is the process of guidance. This does not mean less expenditures but means evaluating expenditure to obtain the best results from them.

[Question] Have the reserves of coming generations been affected by the drop of government revenues?

[Answer] The reserves of coming generations are not, and will not be, affected because they are basically an allocation. Ten percent of the government's income is deducted before anything else and is reserved for coming generations. This percentage is deducted even before the government's budget is set. The reserves of the coming generations will probably have peripheral or limited effects. For example, last year, in the current

budget, 28 percent was allocated to the coming generations and not the usual 10 percent. The reason is that this reserve is the right of our sons and grandsons and not ours only. That is why, when the 28 percent was allocated, in fact it was 18 percent more than is required by law. That is why, if there are no larger revenues in the future, we will not be able to allocate more than 10 percent according to the law. I personally consider this aside and indirect effect and not a direct effect.

[Question] Increments and promotions in the government's ministries will be lower as a result of the drop in revenues. How true is this?

[Answer] It is difficult to answer this question now because it is up to the National Assembly's committee. The issue is under study and it is premature to give a certain vision of it. However, the impression of each one of us is that there is no justification for reducing employees' wages at this stage.

[Question] How can we regulate the establishment of Gulf companies within the GCC? Will anything new be issued on this matter during the next GCC finance ministers meeting?

[Answer] There are continuous exchanges of views, dialogue and contacts. However, it is difficult to say that a certain decision will be issued some time in the near future. During the next GCC finance ministers conference, the ministers will concentrate on investment establishments among the GCC countries.

[Question] I have read that the income from Kuwait's investments abroad is equal to Kuwait's oil revenues. Is this true?

[Answer] Kuwait's investments abroad are excellent. We have investments of which we are proud. They are a guarantee for our coming generations. They are the main bastion for Kuwait's economy. However, we should not consider them as the main source for our needs. They should be considered a reserve and a source of income during times of adversity, which we hope will not fall during coming generations. Our investments abroad play a twofold role: They are a good source of income and at the same time they play the role of our international responsibility in our Arab and international investments. They are part of various local investments such as the finance bank, companies and establishments. If we evaluate these things together, we find that our investments abroad are good. There is no need to worry about them. Because they are a guarantee, they are a source of assurance for the citizen that Kuwait is good and will remain so.

CSO: 4400/281

KUWAIT

BRIEFS

MP QUESTIONS CENTRAL BANK ACTION--Parliamentary sources consider the Central Bank's instructions to local banks to stop extending facilities [not further elaborated] to citizens as harmful to the national economy. This was expressed in an urgent question from Khalid al-'Ajrán, member of the National Assembly and member of its financial committee, to the speaker of the National Assembly asking for a clarification from the minister of finance. The following is the text of the question. The speaker of the National Assembly: Kindly refer the following question to the minister of finance: What is the wisdom behind the Central Bank's action in giving instructions to local banks to stop all facilities to citizens at the present time--thus causing harm to the national economy? Also kindly clarify the justifications for stopping these facilities. [Text] [GF211505 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 20 May 82 p 6]

POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF GULF OIL--Kuwait national oil company has reached what was described as a critical stage in talks with Gulf Oil on the purchases of the bulk of Gulf's refining and marketing organisation in Europe, according to a report from London last week. The report said the two sides had not reached the point at which prices were being discussed but it estimated that the deal could be worth about \$1.8 billion. The sale would be in line with the strategy mapped out by Gulf's Chairman James Lee of concentrating on oil and gas reserves in the US and cutting costs on unprofitable downstream activities. According to Gulf, its refineries in Europe were operating at only 46 per cent of capacity last year and a projected 86 per cent for operations for this year is to be achieved by cutting capacity by about 40 per cent. Gulf has been selling off its European assets since 1977 and has already disposed of about one-third of these holdings. It has rid itself of facilities in France, Spain, Norway, northern Sweden and northeastern England but still has refining and marketing interests elsewhere in Britain and in several other countries, including Switzerland, Italy, The Netherlands and Denmark. [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 18, 3 May 82 p 10]

KUWAIT AIRWAYS TRIES TO REDUCE LOSSES--Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) is taking steps to reduce its estimated losses of KD 7 million (\$26 million). KAC will make no new appointments until, in the words of Ahmed al-Zabin, KAC's general manager, "the optimum utilisation of existing manpower has been achieved." KAC currently employs 6,565 persons. Present flight routes and offices overseas are to come under review. KAC is believed to be contemplating halting flights on two of its European routes and closing down several of its offices abroad. At the same time, it is hoping to attract new business by opening new routes to Algeria and South Korea. Other economy measures include the introduction of a computerised flight planning system, which may reduce fuel costs by KD 1.5 million (\$5.6 million) a year, and the sloughing off of certain activities to subsidiaries. In this connection, Kuwait Catering Supplies and Aviation Services Company (KCSAS) will become responsible for all of KAC's catering requirements by this summer. KAC's belt-tightening measures come in the wake of a recent appeal by Kuwaiti Finance Minister Abdel Latif al-Hamad for austerity measures and rationalisation of public expenditure. Kuwait, suffering like other oil producers from the effects of the current world oil surplus, recently published a budget envisaging a deficit of KD 312.6 million (\$1.16 billion). [Text] [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 19, 10 May 82 p 5]

CSO: 4400/282

IMF LOAN AGREEMENT APPROVED

Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 18, 3 May 82 pp 3-4

[Text]

The International Monetary Fund has formally approved a \$579 million loan agreement with Morocco, it was reported from Washington last week. Last September, the IMF agreed to extend a financial package worth \$997.8 million to Morocco, but most of the money was not disbursed because the country could not fulfill the IMF's conditions.

Under the new pact, Morocco will get a 12-month credit of \$315 million to prop up the country's overall economic and financial plans. It will be able to draw the remaining \$246 million to help finance the cost of the cereals it had to import as a result of a major two-year drought. Exports to Europe of fruit and vegetables, normally among Morocco's main sources of foreign currency, were also badly affected by crop failures (*An-Nahar Arab Report & MEMO*, December 7, 1981).

An IMF statement said that Morocco's economic and financial programme combines short-term efforts to stabilise its deteriorated economic situation along with basic longer-term adjustments in its financial structure. Morocco has been engaged on a programme of industrial expansion, requiring substantial imports of capital equipment which the country can ill afford.

The drought in Morocco has now come to an end, lifting hopes for a good crop this year. Cereal imports rose 75 per cent above the average of the previous two years as a result of drastic falls in the production of wheat, barley and maize, the IMF said.

The IMF loans come with conditions that include a reduction in the Treasury deficit to 8.2 per cent of GDP; limits on external borrowing by the government and further liberalisation of the country's trade and exchange system. Under a stabilisation plan agreed by Morocco and the IMF, the government will try to achieve a growth target of 4 per cent in 1982, while reducing the current account deficit in the balance of payments from 12.5 per cent of GDP to 10 per cent and holding inflation below 12.5 per cent.

In another development, Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid has been touring Gulf countries with a view to attracting more investment in Morocco. In Kuwait, his talks covered the establishment of a joint Kuwaiti-Moroccan investment bank and the financing by Kuwait of some development projects.

Meanwhile, a US delegation led by Assistant Defence Secretary Francis West visited Morocco to discuss ways of increasing bilateral cooperation in the field of defence and security. US officials quoted by *Reuters* said that the Reagan administration plans to increase US military assistance to the North African state from its current level of \$30 million to \$100 million next year to help Morocco in its battle against the Polisario Front in the Western Sahara. The talks, which constituted the first session of a joint military commission set up during Secretary of State Alexander Haig's visit to Morocco in February, are said to have covered possible US supplies, including electronic devices to protect aircraft from ground-to-air missiles, and sensors.

CSO: 4500/183

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS--Sultan Qabus issued decrees on 31 May appointing Hilal Ibn Sultan Ibn Sayf al-Qatami under secretary for Awqaf and Islamic affairs at the Ministry of Justice, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Sami Hamad Ibn Humud director general of the General Directorate of Meteorology at the Ministry of Communications. [GF311538 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 May 82 GF]

APPOINTMENT DECREES--Sultan Qabus yesterday issued three royal decrees. The first decree (No 47/82) appoints Dr 'Asim al-Jamali, minister of public works, as the sultan's personal adviser on construction planning affairs. The second decree (No 48/82) confirms a cabinet reshuffle. It dissolves the Ministry of Public Works and merges it with the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities. Article II of the same decree appoints former under-secretary of public works, Mr Musallam Muhammad al-'Umari, as adviser at the Ministry of Land Affairs and Municipalities, with the same grade. The third decree (No 49/82) appoints Mr 'Awad Badr Salim, former ambassador to Pakistan, as Oman's new ambassador to China. [Excerpts] [GF021204 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 2 Jun 82 p 4 GF]

CSO: 4400/295

PAPER SUGGESTS UN BETTER OFF WITHOUT UNITED STATES

Doha DAILY GULF TIMES in English 24 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] QATAR's official protest to the United States over the Israeli air raid on Southern Lebanon summarises Arab and Moslem feeling generally. Anyone looking at the Middle East problem in true perspective will understand extremes to which Arabs have been driven when they explore the possibilities of having Israeli representation removed from the United Nations.

As the Qatari statement explains: "Israel by its very nature commits all manner of atrocities without let or hindrance at the expense of our (Arab) nation, and in defiance of the will of the world community."

The fact that United States use of the veto in Security Council prevents penalties being applied gives Arabs every reason to suppose, as the Qatari statement says, that justice no longer has a place in facing force, and that sovereignty of law and respect for international legality do not now exist.

Yet reports come in of the United States, through at least one representative, threatening to reconsider its future with the United Nations if moves to remove

Israelis from the world body go ahead.

How is it, one may ask, that a superpower subjects itself to the humiliation of being held to ransom by a group of people who, by their own conduct, show no respect for world law, world opinion, world ethics or world morality?

Even if there is any truth in the suggestion the United States is soft pedalling to ensure the return to rightful Arab ownership of Sinai, this is diplomacy of appeasement which can gather no respect. Why appeasement in occupied Arab lands, yet not in Poland or Afghanistan?

The United States as a superpower should be using any or all of its many means to end aggression and oppression by international lawbreakers, such as the Zionists. If the Americans are not prepared to do that, perhaps all the other member states of the United Nations should ponder the likely consequence of a world body without the Israelis and the United States in membership.

There are grounds to argue that every country excluded from the United Nations is a mark of failure against mankind. However, there is also a strong case to lay a question mark against the

true worth of any member nation that puts political and strategic convenience above human rights and justice, even in the most conscience-provoking circumstances.

'AL-MADINAH' VIEWS KHOMEYNI'S 'BETRAYAL' OF ISLAM

LD290902 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0625 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 29 May (SPA)--A leading article in AL-MADINAH has strongly criticized the treacherous attitude of the Khomeyni regime toward Islam and the Palestinian question in view of its so-called appeal to the Arab states to ally themselves with Iran to fight Israel and the United States. The paper exposed Khomeyni's political hypocrisy and his lies to the Iranians and the Arab and Islamic nations, and asked how Khomeyni fights Israel and the United States as they are the ones which gave him military and financial support.

The paper quoted the statements made by the Zionist enemy's war minister Ari'el Sharon in Washington in which he admitted that Israel had informed the Reagan administration of its plans to assist Iran in its war against Iraq and that the U.S. administration did not object to this assistance to the Khomeyni regime.

The paper pointed out that the Khomeyni regime has never before been as exposed as it is now, when its allies Israel, the United States and al-Qadhdhafi revealed the secret which it constantly tried to deny--its relations with the Zionist regime. The paper reaffirmed that the Khomeyni regime has exposed itself and revealed the magnitude of its treason, the crime it is committing and the danger it represents to Islam and Muslims and said that if the Khomeyni regime is serious in serving Islam, al-Qadhdhafi would have been the first to fight it, and if the Khomeyni regime is sincere as far as Islam and the liberation of Palestine are concerned it would be hostile to Israel, which occupies Palestine and violates the Islamic holy places.

The paper called on all Arab and Islamic states to remove the dangers to which the enemies of Islam want to drag these Islamic and Arab states and their peoples, and to examine Iran's attitudes and the betrayal it has been involved in by allying itself with al-Qadhdhafi in his war against Islam, its alliance with Israel in its war against the Arab and Islamic states, and its alliance with the United States, which conspires with every conspirator against the safety of countries and the future of peaceful peoples. It said that the fact that the Khomeyni regime stands with al-Qadhdhafi and Israel makes Khomeyni himself as much a criminal as they are, and this requires that all Arabs and Muslims and every peace-loving nation should oppose him.

BRIEFS

TALKS WITH ROK MINISTER--Riyadh, 29 May (SPA)--South Korean building minister Kim Chong-ho and Saudi communication minister Husayn al-Mansuri today signed an accord which provided for South Korean technical supervision of a programme for road construction and maintenance in the kingdom. Following a meeting between the two sides, Mr al-Mansuri said South Korea would provide technicians to maintain the kingdom's road-network. Meanwhile, the Korean minister also conferred with Saudi post, telegraph and telephone (PTT) minister Dr 'Alwai Darwish Kayyal on cooperation between the kingdom's PTT Ministry and Korean companies to implement some telephone projects in Saudi Arabia. Following the meeting, Dr Kayyal said during the past three years more than 300 cities and villages in the kingdom were provided with telephone services. [Text] [LD300516 Riyadh SPA in English 1900 GMT 29 May 82 LD]

CSO: 4400/295

EDITOR DISCUSSES BOULARES' AMNESTY BILL

Tunisia AL-RA'Y in Arabic 7 May 82 p 4

[Commentary by Hamadi Ben Said: "Deputy Boulares Has Submitted Amnesty Bill"]

[Text] At last...Habib Boulares has officially submitted to the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies his final bill concerning the legislative amnesty which he promised to draw up and submit to the Chamber during the debate on the special pardon last February. This bill is comprised of two parts.

Part one, in the form of a political-legal text, contains a detailed explanation of the reasons for the initiative and provides a precise interpretation of the spirit of the legal provisions submitted.

Part two comprises a body of legal chapters which, in its entirety, seeks to allow to benefit from the previous amnesty all those who were tried for their ideas, activities and political or unionist affiliations for what was considered a "crime" and the punishment that followed, regardless of the type of courts which reviewed the cases, whether extraordinary or customary.

It appears that the author of the bill has excluded from the amnesty the group which carried out the Qafsah operation in January 1980, thinking that his piece of legislation should include, first and foremost, those individuals and groups who would not have been referred to the courts, thrown into prison or compelled to flee abroad had political democracy existed in the country. However, the group which was trained and armed abroad, and used armed violence in Qafsah, should therefore have been prosecuted for this, even if Tunisia resembled Switzerland, Sweden or Britain in its level of democratic practice. In this regard, Habib Boulares says that the "Qafsah group" might be pardoned in some other way.

But the question posed by most people is: Will there be a majority in the Chamber to ratify this bill? In addition, will the bill be submitted to parliamentary debate?

If the bill escapes being tabled by the Political Committee and the Committee on Public Legislation, it is unlikely to receive more than 35 or 40 votes at maximum, which is insufficient for passage. If we optimistically assume that the bill obtains 68 votes--that is, a simple majority--this does not necessarily mean it would become an effective law. The Constitution is very clear on this

matter since it grants the president of the republic the right to veto laws which are unacceptable to him and authorizes him to return these laws to the Chamber of Deputies for a second reading, which this time will require a two-thirds vote for passage, a ratio almost impossible for Boulares' bill to obtain. Even if 90 deputies supported the bill, it would be possible for the head of state to reject it, disband the Parliament and hold legislative elections prematurely. But does this mean that we are on the verge of a crisis between the executive and the legislature? We do not think so at all.

With respect to this situation, we only hope that the head of state himself will take the initiative in granting a general amnesty in the form of a law. Constitutionally, he takes precedence over the deputies in proposing laws. Such a decisive resolution would constitute a logical extension of his previous initiatives, whether in regard to the trade union crisis and the pardoning of Mr Habib Achour, or in regard to his acceptance, in principle, of political pluralism.

CSO: 4504/317

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

PAPER ASSAILS ZAIRE PRESIDENT MOBUTO

GF240537 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 22 May 82 pp 1, 6

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] Zairian President Mobuto Sese Seko, not satisfied with licking his signature and swallowing the denunciations which he used to direct to Israel, insulted Africa and the Arab world.

The dictator of Congo Kinshasa--which he called Zaire--made statements in which he branded the Arabs as willing to "enslave" Africa, and as "new imperialists." He also described Afro-Arab solidarity as being "a trap into which the rich fall."

It must be remembered that Mobuto--whose statements imply that he suddenly "recovered" from his stupidity and who did not conform with the OAU and decided to resume relations with Israel--is the very person who stood up at the United Nations in 1973 and denounced Israel for its occupation of the Arab territories and announced that he was severing ties with it. Moreover, Mobuto himself was one of the members who called for severing ties with Israel during a meeting of the OAU in the wake of the October war. This very organization severed ties with Israel because it is aggressive and racist and occupied the territories of Arab countries. If Mobuto reviews the resolution of the OAU which deals with this issue, he will find out that it does not state severing of ties with Israel just until the Sinai is recovered since it is an African territory, as he claimed in his statement yesterday.

If Mobuto reviews the OAU resolutions, he will find out that the current conditions justify even more than severing ties with Israel, because in the past it [Israel] called the territories it occupied "the administered territories." In other words, it admitted that it was occupying them and that they do not belong to it [Israel]. Recently, Israel has annexed Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, and it regards the Gaza Strip as its property, and the West Bank as "Judea and Samaria." In addition to this, it continues its aggressions against the Palestinians in order to destroy their revolution, gradually continues its annexation of the Lebanese territories and plans for whatever is more severe than this.

If Mobuto reads the daily papers he will know these facts, and he will know the value of the aid and the sacrifices which the Arabs provided for Zaire when the Arab soldiers one day fought against foreign interference. The Arab soldiers also aided other African countries, not because they severed ties with Israel, but because they share with Arab countries their suffering and problems, and besides, the struggle of Arab countries complements their own struggle against imperialism, enslavement and foreign ambitions. They both face the racist aggressions of Israel and South Africa.

For Mobuto to protest that there are many countries which play a dual role by establishing relations with the Arabs and Israel simultaneously, then this is "superficially true but the intention is bad." If the Arabs are responsible for that as a result of the current dispersion of Arab solidarity, then this must now necessarily mean betraying the struggle of the peoples of Zaire and Africa and biting the hand that was extended to aid Mobuto and others. This also does not mean that if the Arabs are in a stage of dispersion then they have reached a stage of weakness which allows a dictator like Mobuto to insult them, challenge them and charge them with practicing enslavement. Does Sese Seko prefer the Zionist enslavement?

Mobuto has retrogressed. He went back to the lap of Israel, where he had received his military training. The responsibility for this retrogression or the like lies on the Arabs and on the continuation of inter-Arab fighting in the absence of a unified strategic solidarity.

CSO: 4400/279

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

COMMENTARY ON DRAPER MISSION TO MIDDLE EAST

GF220935 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0650 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 May (WAM)--In its editorial today, the newspaper AL-WAHDAH comments on the mission of the new U.S. envoy, Draper, in the Middle East. The paper says that the United States has sent its envoy in order to affirm the U.S. point of view, which reflects the Israeli view concerning the attack on southern Lebanon.

The paper says: "The present U.S. stand is still a continuation of its previous stands toward the Arabs and their conflict with Israel, in spite of negative indications of this conflict on the Arab level these days."

The paper indicated that this stand seeks today to reflect the Israeli point of view that civilians in Lebanon must suffer destruction and injury whenever an Arab rises against Israeli oppression and struggles against those who occupy his land and usurp his rights.

The paper warns that the U.S. envoy seeks as part of his new mission to create a new division between the Palestinian resistance on the one side and the Lebanese legitimacy on the other, under the pretext that his country is prepared to prevent Israel from attacking Lebanon if the Palestinians agree to accept the Israeli interpretation of the cease-fire in the south.

The paper warns that Draper seeks in his mission to obtain new Arab and Palestinian concessions for the benefit of the Israeli repression without any gains for the Arab side in exchange and even without any indication that the Israeli repression measures against the Arab citizens in the occupied territories would be reduced.

The paper concludes its editorial by stressing that the Arabs will not ask Draper about the alternative for the U.S. stand toward the Israeli siege of the Arabs in Jerusalem because this stand is clear and not different from the stand adopted on the occupation of Jerusalem and all the occupied Arab territories.

CSO: 4400/279

PAPER URGES UNITED OPEC DECISIONS

GF221738 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 21 May 82 p 1

[Editorial: "OPEC and the Lesson of Unity"]

[Text] During the past 20 years OPEC's experience has proved that the essential factor for its strength and survival is the ability of the 13 members to adopt a unified decision and adhere to it.

This is the lesson which the OPEC ministers, who began their meetings in Ecuador yesterday, must realize and take into consideration when they issue their conference resolutions.

Despite the fact that all expectations confirm that OPEC ministers will agree on maintaining the low production level set at 17.5 million barrels per day in Vienna 75 days ago, the practical test for the success of the OPEC efforts to stabilize the market once again is the commitment by the members to implement the resolutions and not to exceed the production level set for each country.

Experience of past differences which the organization faced during the previous 12 months on pricing and production proved how seriously OPEC differences affect its survival as an international organization that protects the interests of oil producers.

The existence of more than one pricing system was the beginning of the blow to OPEC during the previous period. This crisis exacerbated while disagreement on the production shares continued, producing the oil glut.

For the first time OPEC found itself in a defensive stance; it lost control over the oil market. Prices deteriorated to such an extent that Western experts expected a barrel of oil to sell at \$20 by the end of the year. The most serious thing is that under these circumstances the organization countries began to compete with each other to sell their production.

Now that the Quito conference has started the market situation has begun to stabilize and OPEC has started to halt the deterioration of oil prices and control of the oil market situation. The beginning of this agreement and collective decision to reduce production came during the recent extraordinary conference in Vienna.

Despite the fact that oil prices have started to rise, thus reaching organization's official prices, and the glut has started to disappear gradually, we cannot say that the organization has won the final round. OPEC must continue its task of ending the oil glut in order to protect its prices. This is the main task for the Quito conference.

During the changeable demand situation in the coming months, the most effective factor in ending the round in favor of OPEC against the pressures by Western companies is unity, cohesion and commitment to unified decisions, particularly since the economies of the OPEC members depend on one commodity, oil.

CSO: 4400/279

FOREIGN MANPOWER SITUATION DEBATED

Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 12 May 82 pp 1, 2

[Text]

ABU DHABI (WAM): The Federal National Council (FNC) yesterday held a four-hour session under the chairmanship of Hilal Ahmed Lootah and discussed the government's policy on foreign banks control, its support to national banks and measures taken to curb marriages with foreigners.

The meeting was attended by Finance and Industry Minister Hamdan bin Mohamed and Labour and Social Affairs Minister Salf Al Jarwan.

The Finance Minister briefed the Council on the government's support to national banks and said that all its financial transactions were made through them. All the Ministries had been apprised of this policy.

He assured that the government will deposit a part of the Central Bank's deposits in national banks at simple rates of interest as and when local government start putting their deposits and reserves in the Central Bank.

He also said that the government will not take any measures that may harm the interests of foreign banks in the country. The UAE economy is a free economy and will remain so, he added.

He referred to the role of some of these banks in activating commercial and economic movement in the UAE and said that according to the government policy no new licences will be given to foreign banks.

The Central Bank has decided to reduce foreign banks' branches to eight for each bank operating in the country, the Finance Minister said.

He added that foreign banks are obliged to recruit a certain percentage

of national graduates to qualify national banking cadres.

He confirmed that the government will not compel foreign banks to have national partners, be they the government or citizens and said that several foreign banks in the state have officially offered 60 per cent of their capitals to the government.

Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid also gave an account on banking in the UAE and said it began in 1939 with the British Bank of the Middle East. In 1970, the number of banks increased to 16 including two national banks.

Now, he said, there are 21 nationals banks in the country as against 28 foreign banks and the government has stopped granting new licences to foreign banks with the exception of Canada Bank which has opened this year because it was licensed before the government's ban.

The Finance and Industry Minister praised the establishment of Islamic Banks and said that the Gulf states and the UAE in particular are more zealous in opening such banks.

He also praised the establishment of specialised banks like the Industrial, the real estate banks and asserted that they will play an important role in the development of industry, housing and real estate investment.

According to the Central Bank's law, 60 per cent of the capital of money exchange offices in the state should be owned by nationals.

Earlier, the FNC discussed the issue of marriage of nationals with foreign women.

The Council's members called upon the government to adopt legal and legislative measures to curb this

phenomenon. They also called for the intensification of information campaign on the adverse impacts this may have on the socio-political structure of the UAE society and also stressed the necessity of including these aspects in schools curricula.

Labour and Social Affairs Minister Salf Al Jarwan told the Council that the Cabinet has set up a committee comprising Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs, Interior, Justice, Islamic Affairs and Awqaf, Education, Health and Foreign Affairs to draw up an integrated study on the issue and in the light of a working paper on the matter drafted by the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry.

He said that he is of the same opinion as Council's members that this phenomenon poses threats to the social structure, the culture, customs and stability of the country particularly in the long run.

But at the same time, he asserted that the issue of marriage is a personal decision but the government should intervene only when it conflicts with the interests of the society and the country.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs has prepared a study with the assistance of social development centres in the country on this issue, the Minister said.

The study showed that 83 per cent of the reasons of marriages with foreign women is attributed to the high costs of marriage and other

reasons including among other factors the disagreement of the national bride's family and elimination of family problems, he added.

He said that 24 per cent of those who married foreign women had two or more wives, 38 per cent of the cases ended in divorce and 20 per cent managed to co-exist with their local wives.

The success of old men in finding foreign wives is another reason as according to the study, 50 per cent of those married to foreign women are above 40 years and some of them are even aged 75 years. The study also shows that 50 per cent of foreign wives are below 20 years.

The study also says that the lack of financial stability is one of the reasons and shows that 72 per cent of those who married foreign women are junior employees, 15.5 per cent small businessmen, and 8.5 per cent are unemployed.

It also says that the income of 75 per cent of these do not exceed , Dh. 300.

Finance and Industry Minister

Hamdan bin Rashid also took part in the debate and proposed that the council's remarks be sent to the concerned Ministerial Committee for consideration.

He also proposed that discussions on this issue be completed after the government takes appropriate measures in tackling it.

The Council agreed with his proposal.

The FNC also decided to postpone discussions on the oil policy.

It will resume debate on the foreign manpower policy on May 23.

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

ADFAED LOAN FOR BURUNDI--The Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development (Adfaed) has granted a Dh 20 million loan to Burundi. The loan, to be repaid in 14 years with a grace period of four years, will be used to finance a sugar project. The dollars 72.2 million project is also financed by the Arab Economic Development Bank, African Development Bank and Opec International Development Fund. Mr Nasser Al Nuweis, managing director of Adfaed, and Mr Enslim Morango, director-general of planning of the Burundi Government, signed the loan agreement in Abu Dhabi yesterday. The project includes the construction of an industrial and agricultural complex to produce 16,000 tons of sugar per year.--WAM [Text] [Dubayy KHALEEL TIMES in English 11 May 82 p 3]

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END